

# Decision to close Linwood despite £40m aid offer provokes widespread fury

## 4,800 jobs to go and 3,500 more at risk

Talbot UK's announcement yesterday that it was closing its Linwood car plant, with the loss of 4,800 jobs, provoked fury from MPs, unions, and the workers. The Government is understood to have offered the French owners up to £40m to keep Linwood open, and at Talbot's Midlands plants, the decision was seen as spelling the end of their car-making in Britain.

Clifford Webb, the former Peugeot director, said: "The French Peugeot Citroen group two years ago, put an end to months of speculation yesterday by announcing plans to close its loss-making car plant at Linwood, near Glasgow, with the loss of all 4,800 jobs."

The news that production at Linwood's only car plant will cease in June brought an angry response from all sections of the community. Mr Bruce Millan, the shadow Secretary of State for Scotland, described it as "a disaster for the west of Scotland that we have had for many years."

But Linwood's demise was also greeted with dismay at Talbot's Midlands plants where it was widely anticipated as signalling the end of car manufacturing in Britain by the company founded by the Rover family.

"It is quite clear that we are being demoted to the role of a French offshoot assembly operation. We shall be producing French cars and passing them off as British with a different badge," was how one Coventry executive put it last night.

The Avenger and Sunbeam models produced at Linwood are the only British cars re-



M. Parayre: "Strong presence will remain."

# Emergency debate is refused as MPs denounce shutdown

The closure of the car plant at Linwood with the loss of 4,800 jobs, which was announced yesterday by Talbot UK, brought a shocked and angry response from all parts of the House of Commons.

Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under-Secretary of State, Scottish Office, replying in the absence of the Secretary of State who was attending the talks in Brussels, told MPs that it was disastrous news for the West of Scotland.

Appealing for an emergency debate, which was refused, Mr Norman Buchan, Labour MP for West, said that he had been fighting for 16 years to preserve the factory. The decision would mean the death of the town and would raise the local unemployment figure to the unthinkable level of 20 per cent. He spoke of bitterness and anger in Linwood.

From the Labour front bench, Mr Bruce Millan, Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that the closure was disastrous in an area already devastated by the effects of the Government's economic and industrial policies.

If the French parent company could break the pledges it had given regarding Linwood, pledges relating to Talbot's operation in Coventry could also be broken. The announcement might be the first step towards the complete withdrawal of Talbot from the United Kingdom.

He said that when Peugeot accepted obligations in 1978, they included specific pledges to keep Linwood and other British manufacturing plants open. If it had not been for those pledges, considerable sums of government money would not have been given to the company.

The Labour Party would not accept the closure.

But, for all the anxiety about the unemployment and the anger at the French decision to withdraw, Mr Fletcher could offer little immediate hope.

No offer of government funds, he said, would have attracted the company to make a new and substantial investment at Linwood for the simple reason that it was suffering from over-capacity.

Concentration of facilities was the only realistic course open to it.

Mr Fletcher added that, as well as the direct loss of 4,800 jobs at Linwood, there would be employment consequences for suppliers. He was considering what emergency measures could be taken to generate new employment in the area before the shutdown at the end of the year.

# Adjustment in tactics admitted by Mr Pym

In a bold, and deliberate, attempt to restore some common sense to the Government, Mr Pym, leader of the House, last night admitted in a speech that the Government was adjusting both its tactics and timing to meet severe economic difficulties.

"Common sense tells us that the current circumstances make adjustments necessary in both tactics and timing, to meet altered conditions. We will not be deterred from making this statement of the obvious by accusations of changing course. These adjustments in no way imply the abandonment of any of our main purposes nor any change in strategy," he said.

His speech, given to Pym's Conservatives the day after the Government announced the first of massive new funding measures to help British Steel, marks a deliberate counterpoint to Mrs Margaret Thatcher's out-and-out defiance to any suggestion of changing course. It also marks the Cabinet's public acknowledgement that all is not well.

Mr Pym, appointed in last month's reshuffle to have oversight over the way the Government pursues its message across the country, said the new tack with the Prime Minister, and it undoubtedly represents at the very least a sober new look, though in Whitehall as usual it was professed there was nothing new.

"The simple truth is, that in the light of the deterioration in the world and domestic economic framework, we could neither press ahead regardless with our planned schedule, nor avoid some much needed measures to deal with some of the distressing effects," Mr Pym said.

Without apology or hand-wringing he drew attention to what he called the Government's concern with the immediate problems afflicting the country; increased assistance for the young unemployed; increased selective help to development areas and

# Ministers to drop sick pay scheme

Government proposals to make employers pay the first eight weeks of sickness benefit are to be dropped from the legislative timetable after a series of ministerial meetings in the last few days.

Although a final decision has to be taken by the Cabinet today on a postponement, it is fully expected that the new Social Security Bill will not include clauses on sickness benefit.

It was evident last night that there has been disagreement among ministers because the postponement means the Government will have to seek elsewhere for cuts in the Civil Service. The estimate of savings from the transfer of sickness benefit payments to employers some 5,000 jobs could be cut.

Ministers who argued against postponement were from the Treasury and the Civil Service Department. But the ministers responsible for social security, employment and industry, argued that the Government had to take account of criticisms from industrialists.

The Confederation of British Industry and the Engineering Employers' Federation have argued that the measure is discriminatory because it would fall hardest on the engineering industry where the incidence of sickness is high.

Small businessmen, on the other hand, have complained that firms with few employees could not bear the cost.

Under the original proposals, employers would pay the first eight weeks of sickness benefit but the employers' national insurance contribution would be reduced. The compensatory concessions offered included proposals that employers would get reimbursement, the scale of which would depend on the length of time an individual's sickness and his amount of service.

It was stressed last night that ministers still intended to bring in transfer of sickness pay in the next parliamentary session if the Cabinet agreed to a postponement.



Mrs Cynthia Dwyer, the American freelance journalist deported from Iran after spending nine months in jail for spying, said in Zurich during a four-hour stopover on her way back to America that Miss Jean Waddell, one of the four Britons held in Iran, was "in very good spirits, very hopeful" when she left her. Mrs Dwyer and Miss Waddell shared a room.

# Air control radar lost after power failure

The London air traffic control area was without radar cover for 30 minutes on Tuesday evening after a power breakdown at the main control centre at West Drayton, near Heathrow airport.

Emergency electricity supplies were quickly switched in to give the controllers lighting and radio communication with the aircraft under their control. The Civil Aviation Authority said last night that air safety was not endangered.

The cause of the breakdown had not been established yesterday but it had been ruled out. The West Drayton centre is manned half by civilians and half by the Royal Air Force.

The authority said: "We view this as a serious occurrence and are carrying out an internal inquiry to make sure it will never happen again."

"This is certainly the first time that such a breakdown has occurred."

During the period of the radar blackout all take-offs from Heathrow were held up and aircraft approaching the London area were asked over the radio to hold in patterns.

French air traffic controllers were asked to reduce the number of aircraft passing through their airspace on their way to Britain, and some take-offs from airports in Europe were delayed.

The authority added: "Radar is a vital tool, but it is possible to function safely without it using radio communications, although not at the same level of activity."

# Arson suspected after eight die in second Las Vegas hotel blaze

From Michael Leapman, New York, Feb 11

Eight people died and 242 were injured in a spectacular fire that raced through several floors of the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel last night. It was the second disastrous fire in a skyscraper hotel within three months in Nevada's largest city, the gambling capital of America.

Police said they suspected arson. There appeared to have been four separate fires, the first of them starting in the evening, just before Andy Williams, the singer, was due to give his opening performance.

One of the victims was killed jumping out of a high window. The rest died from smoke inhalation before they could be rescued from the blaze.

"There were flames shooting up the side of the hotel. It looked like the towering inferno," said one of the survivors, referring to a film in which a high-rise hotel catches fire.

The November fire at the MGM Grand Hotel near by, in which 84 people lost their lives, has often been compared to the fictional fire in the film.

Questions about the safety of skyscraper hotels have been raised since last November's fire and are bound to be asked again as a result of this one. Firemen's ladders cannot reach beyond the eighth floor, where last night's fire began. If guests on floors above the fire are prevented from going down the emergency stairs, they cannot be rescued except by helicopter from the roof.

Some guests did escape by that method, others broke windows and shouted for help to the 450 firemen who fought the flames.

A guest from Chicago who was attending a convention at the hotel said: "When we got to the roof we saw flames coming up the elevator shaft through the building, so we ran over to the other side of the roof. When we saw flames there, we started to get nervous."

A Florida guest said: "We thought of the MGM fire and I was scared us half to death." The hotel was evacuated and guests were given emergency beds in the city convention centre.

Unlike the MGM hotel, the Hilton had fire alarms and sprinklers on all floors.

Mr Barron Hilton, chairman of the Hilton Corporation, said: "If the fire was deliberately set, then the resources of the Hilton Corporation would be committed to bring the person or persons responsible for this tragedy to justice."

There could be several motives for setting fire to the hotel. Like most of the large Las Vegas hotels, the Hilton has a gambling casino downstairs, and a heavy loser might feel incensed enough to try to burn it down.

Our Medical Correspondent writes: Many of the deaths in any fire catastrophe are caused by suffocation or by poisoning from inhaled gases rather than by burns although the bodies commonly become extensively burned after death.

Almost always the smoke in a burning hotel contains carbon monoxide and victims often die from poisoning from this gas, the familiar lethal constituent of coal gas.

In several recent fires the smoke from burning plastic furnishings has proved especially dangerous. Burning plastic produces unusually dense clouds of smoke, which is also a chemical irritant and so can quickly incapacitate anyone breathing it. The irritants make breathing extremely difficult.

The smoke also causes irritation and watering of the eyes. It is the combination of impairment of vision and of breathing by chemical irritation that makes escape unusually difficult in fires with a large plastic element.

Photograph, page 8

# Polish Army leader pledges tough line

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, Feb 11

The Polish Sejm (Parliament) today entrusted General Wojciech Jaruzelski with the difficult task of convincing the Government which has to restore order and trust in authority.

There were two abstentions, perhaps indicating a new mood in the hitherto placid voting procedure.

General Jaruzelski is to remain Minister of Defence, a post he has held continuously for more than 13 years serving under a succession of prime ministers and through three changes of Government. The symbol of continuity of the one and only institution which remained intact, the armed forces.

There has been no military coup; but the Government, which has so far lacked authority now had the army to back it up as well as to guarantee Poland's growing uneasy allies that the authorities intend to halt the escalation of political demands. It can now also guarantee that while it is ready to negotiate, it will not be pushed into making concessions.

The Poles have found a typical Polish solution by entrusting the Government into the hands of a career soldier who, furthermore, is a man who is opposed to the use of force and commands great respect from all strata of society. This was emphasized by Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Communist Party leader, in a brief address to Parliament recommending General Jaruzelski for the post.

He emphasized his moral qualities, his strength of character, his patriotism, the fact that throughout his career, he had been a teacher to new generations of Polish army officers, and that he had brought the army to its present high state of readiness.

He also said that he would act toughly against anarchy and all forces which were acting against socialism, but that the task standing before the Government was to negotiate and carry out promised reforms.

Continued on page 7, col 1

# £3,500 bill for every job lost

Every worker made redundant costs the Exchequer almost £3,500 a year in lost tax revenues, and social security and other benefits. A 300,000 rise in unemployment over the past year is estimated to have cost the Government £1,050m. The direct and indirect cost to the Government of every jobless person is, however, likely to be around £5,000 a year. The state's outlay on unemployment is equivalent to more than half the £4,000m overshoot on public sector borrowing.

# Herr Schmidt says he will stay at his post

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, affirmed the evening of his Socialist Democratic Party's crisis meeting, that he intended to stay at his post. Herr Kilian, a former party deputy chairman, warned the party that if it could not stop the rot "its fall from power will be unavoidable".

# 'Times' meeting today

Leaders of printing trade unions have been called to a meeting by Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International company today amid hopes that it is near to agreements required for the purchase of The Times, The Sunday Times and the three supplements. Mr Murdoch has given assurances on editorial independence of the supplements to a Commons committee.

# Mrs Williams criticized

Mrs Shirley Williams will regret her decision to leave the Labour Party, Mr Ronald Hayward, its general secretary, said. She should have stayed inside the party and fought for democratic socialism, he added.

# London to lose 4,000 acute hospital beds

London is to lose more than 4,000, or almost one in seven, of its acute medical and surgical beds in the next seven years, in return for more psychiatric, mental illness and mental handicap beds, and improved community services. Some small, local hospitals will be closed.

# Diplomatic leak inquiry

Investigations are underway in Canada to find out whether a message sent by the High Commissioner in London to the External Affairs Department in Ottawa came into the hands of a television network. The message expressed fears that diplomatic telephone conversations were being tapped.

# BR power drive urged

The chairman of British Rail called on the Government to approve a programme to electricity more main lines after a study group reported that that would reduce oil usage and help manufacturers win more export orders. The investment programme for the railways could cost between £250m and £720m.

# Closed shop dismissal

Miss Joanna Harris, aged 20, the poultry inspector who refused to join a union, has been dismissed by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. West Midlands, which operates a closed shop policy. The council's personnel officer said that the names of a number of other non-union employees had been notified.

# Airline strike vote

British Airways ground staff to stage one-day stoppages that will halt operations at Heathrow.

# Uganda: Troops have arrested a leading politician and businessman in the wake of the attacks on police stations this week

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Home News	2-4	Arts	12	Diary	17	Sport	10-11
European News	6	Books	13	Engagements	9	TV & Radio	27
Overseas News	7, 8	Business	15-22	Law Report	14	Teatime, etc.	27
Appointments	7, 22	Court	17	Law Report	15	25 Years Ago	17
Architecture	17	Crossword	28	Letters	15, 20	Weather	2











## HOME NEWS

# London hospitals to lose more than 4,000 acute beds in return for better geriatric and mental service

By Nicholas Timmins

London is to lose more than 4,000, or almost one in seven, of its acute medical and surgical beds over the next seven years, in return for more geriatric, mental illness and mental handicap beds, and improved community services.

A report from the London Advisory Group, endorsed by ministers yesterday, says acute services should be concentrated in 23 of the larger hospitals, including the dozen main teaching hospitals.

But about thirty smaller, local hospitals, which have not been named, will lose some or all of their acute beds, and change to providing geriatric, mental illness or community services. Some will be closed. The changes, the most radical London's hospital system will have undergone since the National Health Service was founded, were described as "a great day for London's health care" by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health.

Health authorities should make urgent plans taking the report into account, he said. They should consult in the usual way, but he would watch progress to see that things really move.

The policy was greeted with some caution by the British Medical Association, which said that unless family doctor and other primary services were improved quickly, patients would face greater difficulties.

"If the reduction in acute beds proceeds before measures are taken to enhance family doctor and other primary health care services, an even greater strain will be thrown upon GPs who are already struggling to cope."

Dr Vaughan said the policy would end years of uncertainty, in which a number of teaching hospitals have been threatened and would mean resources could be transferred from acute services to those neglected areas in which London was ill-provided. The capital, for example, has 15 per cent too few geriatric beds.

The report argues that inner London's falling population, expected to be down to 2.5 million by 1990, has had to place too much reliance on acute beds because of poor geriatric, long-stay, family doctor and community services. Those were expensive and not necessarily in patients' interests.

It accepts that the number of acute beds should be cut from 26,650 in 1979 to 22,500 by 1988; the reduction of 4,120 being split roughly between inner and outer London.

In return, it is essential that geriatric, community and primary care services are improved, to unblock acute beds being filled by elderly patients requiring longer-term care, and to cope with the earlier discharges of patients now taking place.

Commenting on family doctor services, the report says improvements may depend more on central government than local action.

The report argues that the main acute services should be concentrated where the greatest investment has been in the teaching hospitals in the centre of London, and at those like St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, and the Whitting Hospital, Highgate.

The alternative strategy of cuts across the board would hamper big hospitals and make smaller ones not viable, while shutting an important hospital could not easily be justified where less suitable hospital would need considerable investment.

Accessibility is not on the whole a serious difficulty, the report says. The retention of the central London teaching hospitals would ease the medical schools' job of finding enough patients.

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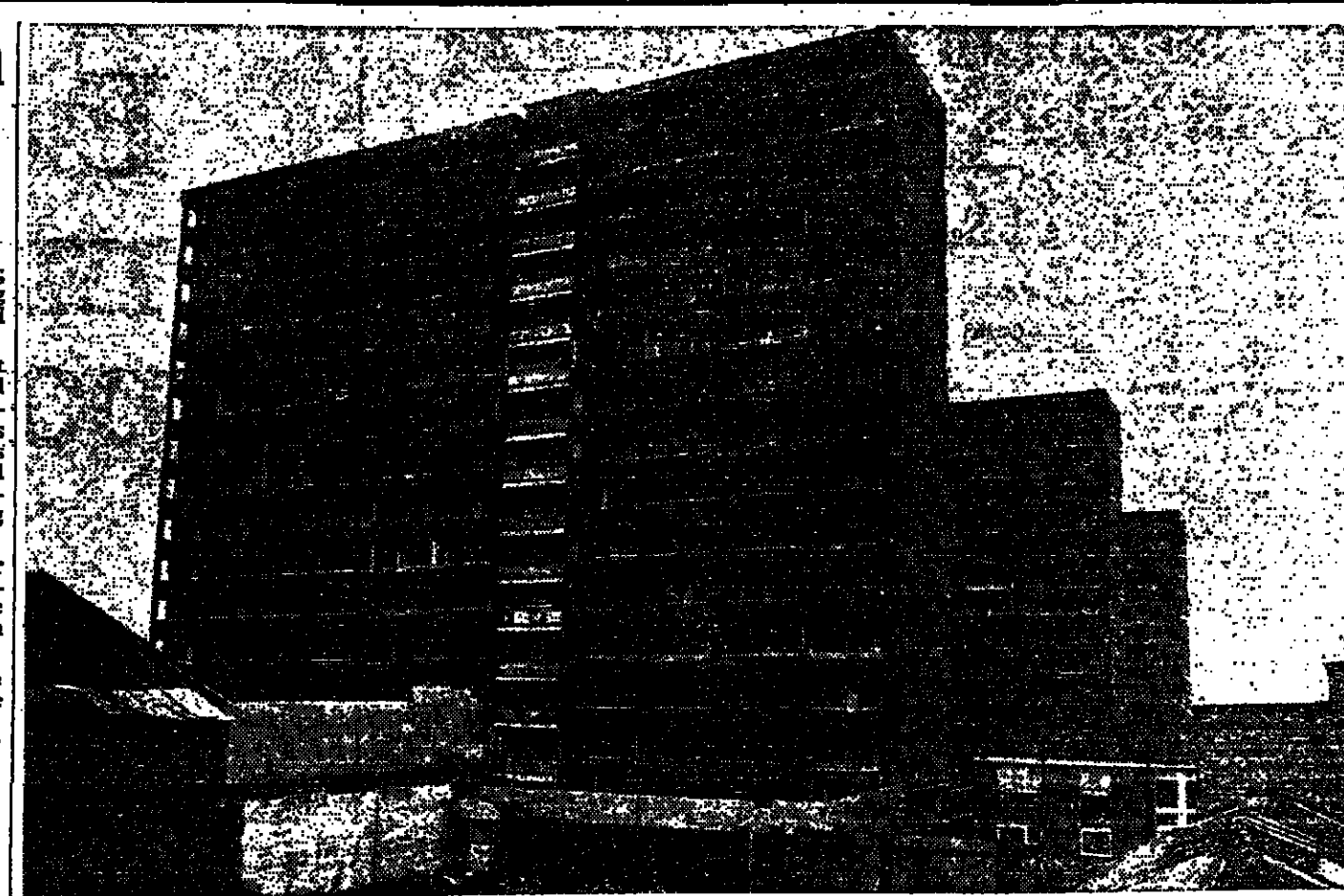
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"Piggeries" sold: Contracts were exchanged yesterday between Liverpool City Council and a private property company for the sale of the three large blocks of flats (photographed above), which are locally nicknamed "The Piggeries" (John Young writes from Liverpool). The council decided several months ago to sell the three blocks after they had been persistently damaged by vandals to the point where

potential tenants refused to move there. After considering various tenders it accepted an offer from Marquee Securities, of London. Although the purchase price was nominal, persistent doubts have been expressed about whether the deal would go through. Even after yesterday's news, there was scepticism about the company's prospects of selling the renovated flats on the open market at an estimated

£10,000 each. One suggestion was that they might be purchased by the local health authority or the university for accommodation for nurses or students. Mr Richard Kemp, chairman of the council's housing committee, said yesterday that legal complications had delayed the exchange of contracts. He thought the flats would appeal to single people and childless couples and admitted that they should never have been offered to families.

## Government licenses dog disease vaccine

By Hugh Clayton

The first government licence was issued yesterday for production of a vaccine against disease which has killed hundreds of dogs in Britain.

The licence was given to Daphar Veterinary Ltd of Southampton by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to manufacture a vaccine against canine parvovirus.

Mr Keith Davies, a Yorkshire veterinary surgeon, said at a press conference held in London by Daphar yesterday: "We are still seeing cases in our area every week. We are having about one death a week even now."

"We originally thought the term 'killer virus' was very exaggerated statement, but we soon found that it was not very far from the truth."

The new vaccine will supersede the vaccine which was found last year to give dogs some protection against the disease, but was never licensed by the Government for use on dogs.

Professor Robert Johnson who worked on the dog vaccine at James Cook University, Queensland, Australia, said yesterday that different strains were affected by different varieties of parvovirus.

The parvovirus which affects dogs was a mutation which affected animals in the family including cats and leopards. "This feline virus is very dangerous," he said.

Mr Davies said that the disease affected dogs very suddenly. A puppy that was a right one minute would suddenly become breathless and drop dead. When one puppy a litter had been affected it others were almost certain eventually to die from the disease, even though they appeared perfectly healthy.

Mrs Barbara Woodhouse, author and television broadcaster about dog-training, said the arrival of the new vaccine was "absolutely terrific". She added: "I heard this morning of an entire kennel being wiped out by parvovirus; it is inoculated with feline virus."

**Digging up the roots**  
The Irish Genealogical Association has been established in Belfast to help Irish expatriates to trace their family history.

## Mr Stonehouse's mother dies aged 87

Mrs Rosina Stonehouse, aged 87, the mother of Mr John Stonehouse, the former Labour Cabinet minister, died in hospital during the night, it was announced yesterday.

She had been ill for some time and was admitted to Southampton general hospital early last month after a stroke. She died a short while after news of her son's marriage to Mrs Sheila Buckley, his former secretary, became public.

Mr Stonehouse said yesterday that his mother gave her blessing to the marriage, which was in Hampshire on January 31. Mrs Stonehouse, a former mayor of Southampton, was a veteran Labour Party worker.

## Fishermen fined for obstruction

By Richard Ford

Eleven fishermen who were arrested while picketing at Grimsby as part of a protest over cheap foreign imports were fined £20 and bound over in the sum of £200 by Grimsby magistrates yesterday.

Nine of the men charged with obstruction were said to have been trying to stop three lorries loaded with Dutch plaice from entering the docks. Erik Nielsen, of Cleethorpes, said that their action showed the dire financial straits to which they had been reduced.

Mr John Cutting, presiding, said before fining them: "We must not concern ourselves with the fishing issues. Your conduct was unlawful." Two men who denied the charge had the

case against them adjourned for a month.

Picketing at Grimsby and Fleetwood ended last night and it is expected that inshore vessels will sail today. As the controversy over cheap imports continued, 12 fishermen were handed in two crates of cod bought on the quayside at Grimsby, to 10 Downing Street.

On the crates were the words: "Fishermen get 50p for this, it sells in the shops for £1.20p". The 12 women, led by Mrs Lesley Todd, whose husband is chairman of Humberside Fishing Association, handed in a petition calling for aid to the industry and aid to end cheap imports. They were supported by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Grimsby.

Elsewhere in Britain, inshore fishermen from Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft held up 70 tonnes of imported Dutch fish for several hours at Great Yarmouth. In the South-west, fishermen will meet in Plymouth today to set up a coordinating committee and start a fighting fund to finance protests.

At Fleetwood, Lancashire, 70 inshore vessels returned to sea yesterday at the end of a three-day tie-up with a warning from the merchants that they will boycott inshore fish if there is further disruption. The warning followed an incident in which £500 damage was done to lorries belonging to one of the port's main merchants. The inshore men have denied responsibility.

Brussels talks, page 6

## In brief £64,000 award for nurses

Seven female nurses at the Peterborough district hospital have been awarded a total of £64,000 in compensation for back injuries sustained on duty, mainly because of lifting patients. The payments are the result of out-of-court settlements after a four-year legal battle by the National Union of Public Employees.

One of the nurses received £30,000 and other payments ranged from £3,000 to £8,500.

**Blast wrecks home**  
Mr Alan Morson and his wife June were rescued with minor injuries by neighbours from the rubble when their home in Lutteridge Road, Slough, was destroyed by an explosion yesterday. Their two children also escaped. The gas board is investigating.

**Hindley honours try**  
Myra Hindley, who last year took a BA degree in the Open University while serving her life sentence for the Moors murders, has been given permission to go on for an honours degree.

**Beaten by moles**  
Mole hills on two council-owned football pitches in Peterborough have forced two clubs to use other grounds. The council is providing other pitches free of charge until it finds ways of eliminating the mole hills.

**JP found dead**  
Mr William Beattall, aged 57, an Essex magistrate since 1961, was found dead with gunshot wounds yesterday at his farm at Wakering, near Southend. A shotgun was near by.

**Prince trains for race**  
The Prince of Wales went for a training gallop at Lambourn early yesterday in preparation for his race at Newbury on Saturday, when he will ride his hunter Alibi.

**Furnace blast hurts 3**  
Three men were hurt yesterday when molten metal exploded in a furnace at the British Steel Corporation's River Don steel works in Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

**British Steel fined**  
The British Steel Corporation was fined £100 with £40 costs by magistrates at Chichester, Sussex, yesterday after it admitted a short weight delivery of stainless steel.

**PC's rescue fails**  
Police Constable Alexander Hart, aged 22, was overcome by fumes yesterday while trying to rescue Mr Frederick Leighton, aged 90, who died in a fire at his home in Upper Elmers End Road, Beckenham, south London.

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**BOTTOMS UP**

## Court orders bank to hand over £1,980 from robbery

From Our Correspondent  
Douglas, Isle of Man  
An Isle of Man court has ordered a bank to hand over nearly £2,000 held in a deposit account, after being told it was part of the proceeds of a £26,000 armed robbery in Northern Ireland in December 1979.

Mr Michael Moyle, the Manx Government Advocate, told the Chancery Court at Douglas yesterday that the money was stolen in a robbery at the Kilroot power station, Eden, Carrickfergus, on December 20, 1979. He added that £1,980 had been traced to an account in the Northern Ireland Industrial Bank (Isle of Man) Ltd, at St George's Street, Douglas. The money was deposited to an account in the name of the Trustees for Larne Young Protestant Volunteers' Flute Band.

Mr Moyle, who appeared for the power station company, Aiton and Company, said the bank was cited as the first defendant and the second defendant was Samuel James McVeigh, who was serving a prison sentence.

Mr Malcolm Kelly, a court official, said he had a letter from Mr McVeigh admitting that the money was stolen. In the letter, read to the court, Mr McVeigh said: "The £1,980 is the property of the plaintiff arising out of a robbery at Kilroot power station. I admit that the money was deposited with the Northern Ireland Industrial Bank and I agree that it be repaid to the plaintiff."

Mr Moyle said: "The bank is an entirely innocent party in this. It was merely the stakeholder as it were."

Deceased Arthur Luft made an order that the money be repaid to the power station company.

## Scots supporter fined under new drink law

From Our Correspondent  
Edinburgh  
The first Scottish football supporter to be charged with the new drink laws was fined £35 at Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday.

Norman Tosh, aged 19, a Dundee supporter, admitted being drunk at Easter Road, where Hibernian were playing Dundee in a First Division game.

Mr Tosh, of Carmichael Street, Dundee, contravened the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980, it was stated. He had four pints of lager before the game.

Mr Robert Burnett, for the defence, said that although the case was the first of its kind it had already displayed to him certain difficulties that the courts would have to face in interpreting some parts of the Act.

## Murder inquiry begins into soccer fan's death

By Our Crime Reporter  
Scotland Yard yesterday opened a murder inquiry into the death of a Yorkshire football fan found injured near Tottenham Hotspur's ground, north London, last week. Mr Jeremy Burton, aged 19, of Brentcliffe, White, Bradford, died on Tuesday night in hospital.

He travelled to London by coach last Saturday to watch Leeds United play Tottenham Hotspur but an hour before the kick-off was found by police near the ground with head injuries.

Yesterday a murder squad under Det Chief Supt Robert Sharp began operating from Winchester Hill police station. West Yorkshire police have also set up a small squad in Leeds

## Women cleared over mouse in tank with python

From Our Correspondent  
Bradford  
A claim that a live, tame mouse was in a state of terror after it was dropped into a python's glass tank as food, was made to Bradford magistrates yesterday.

Experts disagreed and the magistrates, who were told of cases where mice had bitten snakes, dismissed an allegation against a pet shop owner of cruelly torturing the mouse. They awarded £300 costs against the RSPCA who had brought the case.

Lesley Holmes, aged 20, of Northwhins Farm, Queensbury, Bradford, who put the mouse into the tank, was summoned for cruelly torturing the mouse. Her mother, Gwendoline, aged

43, of the same address, was summoned for permitting her to do so. Both denied the offences and were awarded costs.

An off-duty policeman who was said to have gone into the pet shop in Great Horton Road, Bradford, saw the mouse in the tank with the python. RSPCA said that the mouse was covering in a corner and trembling in fear. It had been maintained unnecessarily in a state of terror.

For the women it was stated that the mouse was in the tank less than five minutes before it was removed as the snake was not interested in it. If it had been frightened it would have made attempts to escape and jump out. Mice trembled when they were moved from cage to cage.

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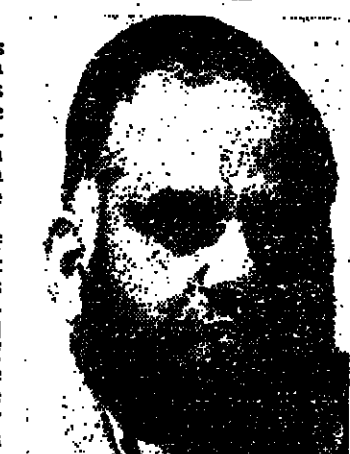
## Bias claim on mosque visit pay cut

By Lucy Hodges

A devout Muslim teacher has complained to the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg alleging that the British Government has contravened the European Convention on Human Rights by denying him time off with pay to attend the mosque on Fridays.

Mr Ifkhar Ahmed, of Margery Park Road, Forest Gate, east London, who works for the Inner London Education Authority, has been forced to work part time because of his insistence on going to the mosque every Friday. The authority reduces his pay by £696 a year, and has given him a special contract so that he works at one for two-and-a-half days a week and at the other for two days a week.

Mr Ahmed says that that is discriminatory. "Because of my religion I lose money. I will never get promotion and I do not even have a class of my own to teach."



Mr Ahmed: Special ILEA contract.

He is challenging a Court of Appeal decision against him in 1977. He had previously taken his case to an industrial tribunal and the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

He rested his case largely on section 30 of the Education Act, 1944, which says that no teacher shall lose money or promotion because of his religious opinions or because he attends religious worship.

The Court of Appeal, with Lord Scarman dissenting, said that section 30 only applied where the school timetable permitted.

In 1974 Mr Ahmed was teaching at a special school and went to the mosque every Friday at lunchtime. As a result his class was left untaught for 40 to 45 minutes in the afternoon. The other members of staff thought that was unfair and eventually the ILEA wrote to tell him he would have to move to a part-time contract.

Mr Ahmed rejected that and resigned. Two years later he accepted the part-time contract because he said he needed the money and felt it better to fight for change within the system.

## Move to reduce size of marginal constituency

By Michael Horsnell

The marginal parliamentary constituency of Oxford, regained for the Conservatives at the last general election by Mr John Patten with a majority of 1,497 votes, might be cut in size under a provisional recommendation issued by the Boundary Commission for England today.

The city's electors, who had given Mr Evan Luard, the former Labour MP a majority of 1,036 in October, 1974, will be cut from £81,709 to 60,201. Six wards of the city would form part of a realigned Abingdon constituency, whose electorate would also be reduced, from 96,447 at the last general election to 63,076.

Under the proposed changes Oxfordshire would have six parliamentary seats, compared with the present three, plus parts of four others. The constituencies of Banbury and Henley will remain, with adjustments to reduce their electorates, and two new ones emerge, Wantage and Witney.

Under other proposals, Buckinghamshire would have six seats, compared with the present four and part of one other. A new seat of Milton Keynes, comprising all but three of the wards of the new town, would emerge.

## 'Nightmare' search for good pub food

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The overwhelming majority of public houses have no idea of what good food is, according to Egon Ronay in his *Raleigh Pub Guide 1981*, published today.

Mr Ronay says that he sent 14 men and women "of undoubted palate and stamina" to inspect five thousand public houses out of many more which had been recommended. "The failure rate was enormous," he says. Only 935 were accepted for inclusion in the guide. A third of those in last year's edition were eliminated.

"Our search was something of a nightmare," Mr Ronay complains, citing "inedible travesties of sandwiches, pastry-covered mush sold as pasties, shrivelled bread sausages, and the great British hide-all, curry."

The inspectors found that food in free houses was best, while public houses with managers as opposed to tenants, served the poorest food.

A poll among the publicans who were successful in getting their houses into the guide showed that only one in 25 attributed his success with customers to the beer he served. More thought it was because of their own personalities while one in six credited to bar food. More than half thought the attraction of their public house was in atmosphere.

The relative unimportance beer was emphasized by Christopher Goss, landlord of the Greyhound Inn, St. Fitts, near Taunton Somerset, which was chosen *Ronay's 1981 Pub of the Year*. "I have just changed six of the seven beers I keep," Goss said, "and I do not think any of the customers mind."

Mr Justice Michael D. said he accepted that most of the items in the collection were not dangerous.

## Average county council rate rises below 10pc

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Rate increases in the non-metropolitan counties in England and Wales for 1981-82 should average less than 10 per cent, the Association of County Councils was told in London yesterday by Mr Ian Coutts, chairman of the association's finance committee.

The counties have gained from the Government's decision to switch resources to their areas away from London and the other main conurbations. That increased their share of government grant by 1.8 per cent.

Rate precept increase among the counties vary widely and include a nil increase in Wiltshire, 3 per cent in Cheshire, 6.4 per cent in Somerset, 13 per cent in Derbyshire and 18 per cent in Gloucestershire.

## Group opposed to nuclear dump claims a victory

From Our Correspondent  
Ludlow

A group opposing the silt dumping of nuclear waste in mid-Wales said yesterday it had gained "a temporary victory" over the Government.

The Institute of Geology Sciences, a government agency, had not made expected planning applications to carry test drillings on the Pw Gwynedd border.

The opposition group, Pe Against Nuclear Dumping Rural Areas, named sites in Snowdonia national park as being intended for test holes by the institute.

Mr Don Arnott, the group's scientific adviser, said yesterday that local opposition had forced the institute from submitting planning applications.

## Conference role for Duke

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Duke of Edinburgh is to address what was described yesterday as the first international conference on human values, to be held in London at the end of March. The organizers hope the conference will lead to a permanent exhibition centre to promote the idea of service to people, particularly among the young.

Dr Richard Lammerton, a consultant running a domiciliary health service in the East End of London, asked the Duke to address the Duke of Edinburgh's 30th birthday party, which had been held in the Palace of Westminster. He said that the Duke's presence would be a great help to the young people in the East End.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Compromise proposals by Dutch to end EEC fishing dispute

From Michael Horasby  
Brussels, Feb 11

EEC ministers of agriculture were tonight presented with proposals for resolving the dispute between Britain and France over access for continental fishing boats to British coastal waters.

The access question has emerged during the past three days as the most important obstacle to agreement on an EEC fisheries policy, over which member states have been arguing on and off for more than five years.

Both Mr Peter Walker, the British Minister of Agriculture, and his French counterpart, Daniel Hoefel, reacted very sceptically to the new proposals, but neither rejected them out of hand.

The two ministers said they would need to know much more about the detail of what was intended. The Danish and Irish ministers also expressed doubts, for different reasons, while most other states reacted favourably.

The new proposals, which were drawn up by Mr Gerrit Braks, the Dutch minister chairing the meeting, would limit fishing activity in areas off the north of Scotland and in the northern part of the Irish Sea by controlling the number and size of boats allowed to fish there.

In the area off the north of Scotland vessels above 30 feet in length would be banned from specified "boxes" within 12 miles of the Orkneys and Shetlands. In an as yet unspecified zone beyond 12 miles the number of boats allowed in

would be controlled under licence.

In the Irish Sea zone all boats above 110 feet would need licences. These restrictions, as also off the north of Scotland, would apply only to boats catching white fish such as plaice, cod, haddock and whiting. Herring and mackerel fishing would not be restricted.

The proposals are designed to give an advantage to inshore fleets from local ports over bigger boats sailing from other member states. Although an improvement on previous offers, the Dutch compromise still falls a long way short of what Mr Walker was demanding.

In the Irish Sea and off the north of Scotland Mr Walker wants waters lying between 12 and 50 miles to be closed to all boats above 80 feet in length. He is also insisting that a 12-mile belt round the entire British coast should be almost exclusively reserved for local fishermen.

Mr Hoefel today received strong backing from the French Cabinet for his insistence that there should be virtually no controls outside 12 miles and that France's "historic" catch within these limits should be maintained.

Aid illegal: The European Commission has told Mr Walker that it considers national aids given to French farmers in the past six years to be illegal. (Hugh Clayton writes)

Thorn attack: Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, told the European Assembly that member governments were hindering the development of the Community. (Reuters writes from Luxembourg)

## Paris gives Mr Sadat a warm welcome

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Feb 11

President Sadat of Egypt was received here today with exceptional honours by President d'Estaing—an indication of the French leader's desire to restore friendly personal relations, which had become obscured in recent years by divergences over the Camp David agreements.

Although this is only a private visit, the protocol deployed on the occasion was practically that of a state occasion. The French President and his wife met the Egyptian presidential couple at Orly airport; a guard of honour was on hand.

M Giscard d'Estaing, who is particularly about protocol, intended to make the welcome an especially friendly gesture—a return for President Sadat's expressed desire to come to Paris after his speech to the European Parliament in Luxembourg yesterday.

The moment is well chosen for a revival of the old warm relationship between Egypt and France. The peace process initiated at Camp David is being locked and sealed in a new Administration in Washington, which has yet to clearly define its stand on a Middle East settlement.

The Egyptian President is now returning to Egypt after getting the peace talks back on the rails, and sees in the initiative of the European Community a useful approach to the Palestinian problem.

The talks at the Elysée Palace, after a private luncheon, lasted two hours. They were described as both "very cordial and very frank".



President Giscard d'Estaing and his wife greeting President Sadat of Egypt and Mrs Sadat at Orly airport.

## Europe asked to provide peace-keeping force

From David Wood  
Luxembourg, Feb 11

President Sadat of Egypt defined for journalists at Luxembourg airport today some of the significant phrases he left vague when he addressed the European Parliament yesterday.

Above all, he made it clear that his proposal for Europe to offer additional security guarantees could include a peace-keeping force to reinforce Arab-Israeli relations. He also

explained that when he used the phrase "Palestinian entity" in Israel he did not have the Palestinian Liberation Organisation in mind.

After two personally successful days of diplomacy in the Grand Duchy, during which he met Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission, President Sadat and his wife were on their way to Paris.

Speaking to journalists, President Sadat recognized that his

phraseology had not been clear. "I am asking for a European initiative," he said. "Europe must take its share of responsibility" now or later when guarantees would be essential to reach an agreement.

He explained that additional security guarantees did not exclude a European peace-keeping force as an accompaniment to economic and political plans. The most important thing, he said, was to give the Arab states guarantees not only by the Uni-

ted States but also by Europe.

Mr Sadat did not consider Jerusalem as a difficult problem. He did not recommend the PLO to be brought now into talks on Palestinian autonomy, because the talks were not deciding the fate of Palestinians but ending Israeli military occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

After three transitional years the Palestinians would have a right of veto to decide their own fate.

## Schmidt pledge to see crisis through

From Patricia Clough  
Bonn, Feb 11

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, made it clear he intended to stay at his post today as the Social Democratic Party (SPD) assembled in seek a way out of its deep internal crisis.

The gravity of the crisis, in the eyes at least of some leaders, was underlined by Herr Heinz Kühn, a former deputy chairman. He gave warning in an interview that if the party could not stop the rot "its fall from power will be unavoidable".

Despite their internal differences, however, SPD leaders appear determined to overcome the growing dissent and dissatisfaction which has been threatening the viability of the SPD-Free Democratic coalition.

Herr Willy Brandt, the SPD chairman, tonight presented the party's executive with a five-point programme calling for solidarity.

The five-page document also called on the party to remain true to the coalition with the Free Democrats and to its responsibilities as the senior governing party.

The meeting had been called by Herr Brandt to try and heal the growing rift within the SPD. Herr Schmidt told journalists before the meeting began that he doubted whether the internal tensions could be dissolved quickly. But he denied suggestions that the troubles were damaging the ruling coalition or compromising the ability of the SPD to govern.

Much of the crisis revolves around left-wing dissent over some of the Chancellor's policies.

## Basque mood turns against terrorists

From Richard Wigg  
Madrid, Feb 11

Big demonstrations against ETA terrorism in the Basque region's three main cities on Monday have evidently convinced the Basque autonomous Government that the tide has turned in popular feeling against the terrorist organization.

The demonstrations have also provoked one wing of that organization, ETA Pol-Militar, to issue a public condemnation of the methods and strategy adopted by the other wing, ETA Militar.

Señor Carlos Garaikoechea, the Chief Minister of the autonomous Government, today read out a statement calling on the Basques to adopt a "decisive attitude" that would isolate

and end the scourge of terrorism and violence.

It was the first time the Government, formed by the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) which won last year's regional election, had called so unambiguously on the Basques to cease any complicity with or tolerance of the terrorists and their supporters.

The demonstrations in Vitoria, Bilbao and San Sebastián, were in protest against the murder of the chief engineer of a nuclear power station being built near Bilbao, by ETA-Militar men eight days after they had kidnapped him.

Basque newspapers today published the ETA Pol-Militar statement. The killing of the engineer, the statement said, was a "concrete example of the incapacity to advance in the

solution of Basque needs" by the ETA Militar.

As the "Basque needs" the statement named an amnesty for about 300 Basque terrorists or suspects detained in Spanish prisons—and the complete transfer of power to the region from Madrid.

ETA Pol-Militar, the less anarchical of the two wings of the organization, also accused the rival group of having turned into a solely military body "without any capacity to find political solutions to Basque problems".

The Basque government statement also condemned those pro-ETA elements which attacked and stoned Monday's statement. The statement said, "Jesus Leizaola, the 84-year-old legendary Basque leader

## Protest over restrictions on Royal funeral

From Our Own Correspondent  
Athens, Feb 11

Former King Constantine of the Hellenes protested tonight against restrictions on popular participation in the funeral of his mother, former Queen Frederika, which is to be held tomorrow at Thessaloniki.

The Greek Government, which has been criticised for allowing the former Queen to be buried in Greece, had put two conditions to the family: The funeral should be a private affair with only family and close friends; the royal family should spend only a few hours in Greece tomorrow, for the funeral.

## French Communists play on racial prejudice

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Feb 11

The French Communist Party is threatened with the prospect of achieving its lowest score since 1945 in the presidential elections, as a result of the zigzag course struck by the leadership, and the growing inability of both rank and file and intellectuals to understand its violent anti-Socialist attitude.

It has therefore decided to beat every popular drum, to play on every popular passion and prejudice, in an effort to restore its popular image.

Before Christmas, with the "punitive raid" on a hostel for Malian workers at Vitry, east of Paris, it played on the strong anti-immigrant feeling

among French workers. The Communist municipality of La Seyne-sur-Mer, near Marseille, called in the police recently to evacuate a gypsy encampment.

The council of Nanterre and Saint Denis recently refused to make homes available for workers from the French overseas territories. And the Communist councillors of Ivry, another town in the Paris "red belt", decided that the number of foreign children in its holiday camp should not exceed 15 per cent.

The latest exploit of a Communist municipality was the "spontaneous" demonstration "to expel drugs" staged on Sunday morning outside the home of a Moroccan worker, Mr Muhammad Karbouch, married with eight children. He

was suspected on the strength of an anonymous letter to the Communist Mayor of Montigny-lez-Cormeilles, M. Robert Hué, of being a drug pedlar.

About 50 Communist activists, complete with banners and megaphone and led by the Mayor wearing his tricolour sash, demonstrated outside the home of the Karbouchs, in a high rise building of the "Cité d'Espérance" of the town, while the victims of this new-style pogrom watched fear-stricken and uncomprehending from behind their curtained windows.

Mr Karbouch is a hard working man, who does not go to the café, his wife told reporters. He has been in France eight years, is highly regarded by his employers, no offence or misdeemeanor has

ever been held against him, the police confirmed.

"How far will the Communist Party go?" the CPDT trade union organization, close to the Socialist Party, asked in a statement. "It is setting up a policy based on electoralism and designed to appeal to the racist sentiments of part of the population."

M André Petit, a Giscardian deputy for the Val d'Oise, where Montigny is located, declared that it was scandalous. "A few years ago, the Communist Party did everything to win the support of foreign workers. All of a sudden, it has turned xenophobic. For the presidential campaign, it is capable of every change of front."

Leading article, page 15

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THE TIMES

مكتبة الأصيل



## OVERSEAS

## Iran President attacks communist drive to 'establish tyranny'

From Tony Alloway

Tehran, Feb 11

President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr of Iran today accused pro-Soviet communists of conspiring with the country's ruling Muslim fundamentalists to "establish tyranny" in the country.

In a ceremony marking the second anniversary of the revolution in Iran he told a crowd of hundreds of thousands: "In our Islamic Republic the people's prestige must be placed within such a socialist manner and our nation must resist such action."

Mr Bani-Sadr also condemned pro-Soviet elements and launched a surprisingly strong attack on the clergy for excessive interference in government affairs.

In addition to a ceremony in which the student militants who took the American hostages were to have handed over the captured United States Embassy for use by the wounded of the war and revolution, was called off at the last minute after Ayatollah Khomeini said it was "inadvisable".

The large crowds that gathered at Freedom Square in the west of the city to hear the President speak listened in a festive and relaxed atmosphere while the unexpected message of Ayatollah Khomeini was read by his son, Hajatollah Ahmad Khomeini.

"This is a serious warning to those clericalists serving in courts and other organizations that they should under no circumstances interfere in areas outside their competence," the Ayatollah's message said.

Besides the courts he singled out revolutionary committees largely responsible for internal security, and a body established in help to give the poor basic living facilities.

He said: "Interference in executive affairs of the country, giving people positions, taking their positions away and so on... will result in disorder in the affairs of the country and must be avoided."

The Ayatollah said there were many instances of such interference and warned the clergy that they were being misled into such actions by "devils" to lower their esteem and damage Islam.

The Ayatollah's statements appeared to lend support to the President. The bodies the Ayatollah specifically complained of are controlled by

the President's fundamentalist opponents.

Describing the revolution as "this great miracle of the century" and pleading once more for national unity, he said that the United States was now "trying to intensify domestic disputes". But he was even more explicit in attacking the dangers of international communism.

The Ayatollah said: "The danger of communism is not less than that of Western capitalism. The people must be alert for their plots."

Political observers said the Ayatollah's message may well have resulted from his talks with the President two days ago, in which the serious problems facing the country were discussed. If so it would support the belief of some observers that the Ayatollah is once again shifting the power balance in favour of the President, although still far from giving him his outright support.

Among the matters most probably discussed in Monday's meeting was that the President pressed by the President in his speech today, the growing concern over the infiltration of the pro-Moscow communist Tudeh Party into the ruling apparatus.

Today the President said: "The Soviet Union's agents... are now trying, by cooperation with the group which has control of the country, to establish tyranny."

We have known you, too leaders of the Tudeh Party, very well for about 30 years. We know you have freedom... We know you are great liars."

Exhorting the people to defend their full rights under the constitution, the President declared: "I am ready to die in order to keep the freedom and independence of the country."

The President said the country was in a "third stage" of the revolution when the group that had seized power—a reference to the clergy-backed Islamic Republican Party—established a dictatorship.

"Our people have no judicial rights," he said, "and a group of people with knives and clubs attacking gatherings, student dormitories, forcing schools to close illegally and assassinating our people all over the country."

The President, widely cheered throughout his speech, drew great applause at the end when he repeated three times: "Censorship must be eliminated. Laws must be executed."



Lindbergh claim: Mr Kenneth Kerwin, left, listens intently while his lawyer, Mr Robert Bryan, displays photographs at a press conference in Flemington, New Jersey, of the baby son of Charles Lindbergh, the aviation pioneer, who made the first solo flight across

the Atlantic. The child was kidnapped in 1932 and was thought to have been killed. Mr Kerwin, however, says he has the baby in the photographs. He has now begun a lawsuit to force the state of New Jersey to release records which he says will prove his claim to be Lindbergh's son.

## Solidarity accused of 'power plot'

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, Feb 11

The Russians today poured scorn on American State Department comments that the Reagan Administration would not grant credits to Poland and was looking instead for economic reform in the country.

A Tass commentary apparently written before the State Department reversed its position on granting aid to Poland—said the United States was trying to impose economic pressure on sovereign states for selfish policy aims.

The reformers in Poland, said the State Department spokesman, had made a "kind of ultimatum" that unless the Poles carried out an economic reform, they could not expect any American credits.

The reformers, according to the news agency, was the abandonment of communism, which a recent conference in Washington had called an "unnatural and alien system" for Eastern Europe.

But Tass asserted that the Polish people had rejected capitalism "once and for all" and the country was and would remain communist.

A Soviet newspaper, in a long and spicy account of the chaos and intrigue its special reporter said he found in Poland, asserted that plotters, disguised as trade union leaders, were making a bid for political power.

The influential weekly paper *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, while describing their union as apolitical, had really launched a fierce political struggle "masked by the pseudoeconomic camouflage of strikes".

The paper said that the "unbridled extremism" of some of the leaders was inspired by the "semi-legal" organization KOR (the dissident Social Self-defence Committee). It described Mr Jacek Kuron, one of KOR's leaders, as a "mouthpiece of anti-socialist forces" who for 20 years had been operating on anti-socialist lines, not working but living comfortably in Warsaw on dollars and Deutschmarks secretly sent to him.

The paper said that KOR agents began to infiltrate the Gdansk docks in 1976, playing on the authorities' economic

mistakes and recruiting men from the countryside. KOR men were doing their best to take advantage of the people's "weak socialist conviction and understanding of the national interest".

The graphic account included a curious episode in a train where the correspondent said he met a drunken military attaché from a Nato country who remarked that he was a spy.

The correspondent said that KOR kept in regular touch with supporters in Sweden.

KOR "set simpletons against the Polish United Workers' Party", linked economic grievances against the authorities with anti-socialist slogans and thus entered the "political arena at the crest of organized actions of workers".

*Literaturnaya Gazeta* renewed Soviet accusations that Solidarity was receiving large sums of money from the United States and West Germany, and disparagingly added that the union's headquarters were equipped with Japanese printing presses, French duplicators, Norwegian typewriters and other Western equipment.

## Toll rises as fighting continues in Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor

Salisbury, Feb 11

Fighting between soldiers in three Zimbabwe national army battalions has claimed at least 19 lives in the past five days and is still out of control in one area, Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, told Parliament tonight.

Mr Mugabe said that the situation was serious, "not in the sense of a war going on but that there have been a series of incidents of death and wounding in at least three parts of the country".

The fighting broke out at Ntubazinduna barracks, near Bulawayo, on Saturday and spread on Monday night to Connemara barracks, near Gwelo.

Heavy fire restarted late tonight in the area of Glenville barracks, with reports of tracer fire illuminating the sky.

The Prime Minister told the House of Assembly that Ntubazinduna was quiet and that soldiers were being disarmed. Five men had died in the weekend fighting which started after a dispute at a beerhall.

But at Connemara barracks, on the main Bulawayo-Salisbury road, members of the joint high command, including the leaders of the former Zipra and Zanja guerrillas involved in the clashes, had been unable to quell the fighting, he added.

Members of the joint high command had entered the area but repeated efforts had not succeeded in convincing soldiers "still warring in the bush to return to their camp".

Patrols have been mounted to deal with the lawless elements," Mr Mugabe said. There were reports tonight that large military forces were building up at Que Que and Gwelo, two towns on either side of Connemara which has been cut off by roadblocks since yesterday.

Mr Mugabe said that five people were known to have died at Connemara but that figures were still unclear and the toll might rise.

The most recent fighting was at Glenville barracks in Bulawayo last night where Mr Mugabe said that 10 people had died. However, military sources said today that the bodies of 11 men, all thought to be soldiers, had been taken to the mortuary at Mpilo hospital in Bulawayo.

Although Mr Mugabe specifically avoided naming Zipra or Zanja elements as being responsible, it seems clear that soldiers formerly belonging to Zipra, the military wing of Mr Joshua Nkomo's party, broke into the armoury at Connemara and attacked former members of Zanja.

The next few days are likely to prove crucial to the nation. The factional violence has involved three of the nine battalions formed in the integration programme last year, including one of the most senior.

## Ottawa seeks source of diplomatic 'leak'

From John Best

Ottawa, Feb 11

Investigations are under way to find who leaked the text of a confidential cable from the Canadian High Commissioner in London to Ottawa on the subject of the controversial plan to patriate the Canadian constitution.

The path of Mr Pierre Trudeau's constitutional reform plan has been strewn with leaked documents almost from the beginning.

The latest episode occurred yesterday when CBC television made public a secret diplomatic cable sent by Mrs Jean Waddell, the Canadian High Commissioner in London, to the External Affairs Department here.

In it Mrs Waddell expressed fear that telephone conversations between the High Commissioner and Ottawa, dealing with Canadian Government strategy for patriating the British North America Act, were being bugged.

"We must take it for granted that those conversations are all monitored and taped by suitably-equipped countries including certainly Britain, France, the United States of America and the Soviet Union," the High Commissioner said.

"Why give Britain notice of our strategy concerns or judgments of some of its key players? Why give others an opportunity for mischief?"

Classified telex messages were "inestimably safer," an External Affairs Department spokesman asked today whether an investigation is being conducted into the leakage.

replied: "I expect it is being done."

He could not say who was involved in the investigation, but indicated that it covers Government departments in which External Affairs cables are copied, as well as the External Affairs Department itself.

The most celebrated leakage occurred last September, in the midst of a crucial federal-provincial conference of first ministers. It was a 64-page document marked "ministers' eyes only" which gave details of the federal strategy for bringing home the constitution with or without provincial consent.

It made clear that the Federal Government was prepared to treat the constitutional crisis then under way "more like a street-fight than a diplomatic negotiation" and assessed the chances of a federal-provincial agreement as "not very high".

Meanwhile, it appears almost certain that there will be a provincial election in Quebec in April.

Mr René Lévesque, the Parti Québécois Premier, has called a special cabinet meeting for tomorrow and Friday at which the timing of the election will be discussed.

The Parti Québécois, which advocates Quebec's independence from Canada, swept into office in November, 1976. Time is thus running out on its five-year mandate; already Mr Lévesque has carried on much longer than the normal four years.

The election dates most frequently mentioned in speculation are April 6, 7, 13 and 27.

## Britain recalls its High Commissioner in Canada

By Our Foreign Staff

Sir John Ford, the British High Commissioner in Canada, has been recalled to London for "consultations" over the Canadian constitutional dispute which yesterday saw the announcement of Sir John's retirement, and the leakage of Canadian diplomatic cables from London to Ottawa.

Sir John is back in London "to brief Lord Carrington and officials on the constitutional situation," the Foreign Office confirmed last night. Debate on the issue resumes next week in the Canadian Parliament.

There was an inquest at the Canadian High Commission in London yesterday over the leaked cables, in which Mrs Jean Waddell, the High Commissioner, said Britain was probably tapping Canadian communications on constitutional strategy. Although the cables were sent under Mrs Waddell's authority it was strongly implied that Mrs Waddell was not the author.

A source at the High Commission said they are "reasonably certain" that the cable was not leaked from London. It is thought in Ottawa that one or more civil servants have been responsible for the leaks.

The present strains arise from uncertainty over whether Westminster will endorse future legislation amending the Canadian constitution and establishing a Bill of Rights before relinquishing to Canada all legal control of these instruments.

The High Commission sources in London thought it unlikely that Mrs Waddell's effectiveness in dealing with the British Government would be impaired by the leaked cables.

The cables welcomed the retirement to the backbenches of Mr Norman St John Stevas, who had raised objections to the Trudeau package, and urged a propaganda "snow job" on Mr Jonathan Aitken, Tory MP for Thames, also an opponent.

Disruption predicted: If, within a month, Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, submits a request for the patriation of the British North America Act, the Government is still determined to do its utmost to have the British parliament accede to a request from the Canadian Federal Government (Our Political Editor writes).

However, challenge and disruption is predicted in both the Commons and the Lords.

Diary, page 14

## Angry denial by son of Mr Reagan

President Reagan's eldest son

Michael, aged 35, who is under

investigation for allegedly diverting \$17,500 (£7,480) invested in a gasahol project to his own personal use, has angrily denied any wrongdoing, and claimed that the Los Angeles district attorney's office "is out to get me because of my famous last name".

Speaking at his home in the suburbs of Los Angeles, he said: "If my name wasn't Reagan none of this would have happened. I've done nothing wrong but it seems since Watergate somebody is always trying to find something. First, you had Billy Carter and now all of a sudden I'm in the papers."

The Los Angeles district attorney today denied his office had singled Mr Reagan out because he was the son of the President, and said the security of his activities was a valid investigation.

On Monday it was disclosed that the district attorney and the State Department of Corporations were investigating Mr Reagan and his lawyer for possible violations of corporate laws.

Investigators said the Reagan inquiry began as an investigation into his involvement with a Los Angeles business promoter, against whom several people had complained.

## Washington ready to help Poles

From David Cross

Washington, Feb 11

After a day of confusion about its intentions, the economic aid for Poland, the Administration here has made it clear that it wants to help Warsaw to overcome its difficulties.

At the same time, it is loath to pour good money after bad if the authorities in Warsaw are not up to the task of introducing reforms to put the economy back on the tracks.

Most important of all, it wants to do all it can to prevent a Soviet invasion of Poland without being seen to interfere.

The confusion arose yesterday when a State Department spokesman said that the Administration was still looking at the Polish situation and "it is our feeling that what is needed most of all in Poland is internal economic reform."

An important point which remained untouched by all of yesterday's confusion was the determination of Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, to play down press speculation here that he now believed a Soviet invasion of Poland was a foregone conclusion.

The State Department spokesman, who said he was speaking on behalf of the Secretary of State, said that the Administration regarded Soviet military intervention as "neither imminent nor inevitable nor justifiable."

This week a letter protesting at the Israeli policy is to be circulated to all 120 members of the Knesset by Mr Eliaz Khoury, a prominent east Jerusalem lawyer who is planning to launch appeals in the Supreme Court against seven different cases of land seizure. He is acting on behalf of more than 200 West Bank families.

"The Israeli moves amount to the biggest land seizure operation since the West Bank was occupied in 1967," Mr Khoury said today.

Mr Khoury, who successfully challenged the legality of the Eilat Moreh settlement in 1979, claimed that the Israelis were now taking over land which had often been cultivated by Arabs for many years but which in most cases had never been properly surveyed.

"Often deeds to these lands just do not exist and it is impossible to organize and finance a survey in the 21 days allowed," he said. "In many instances the Jews are being given control of land formerly

## Warsaw thanks Moscow for its help in crisis

Continued from page 1

He said that General Jaruzelski had a taste of battle in the front line during the Second World War and that all his life he had shown himself to be a Polish patriot.

The psychological effect of the central committee's decision to bring General Jaruzelski more directly into politics is already noticeable. The general, who does not usually appear in Parliament in his uniform, did so today resplendent with all his decorations.

Mr Kania made it clear that whereas the outgoing Government of Mr Jozef Pankowski carried its burdens well, the new stage in which the country was heading towards "catastrophe" weakened by political strikes and "grave danger", needed another personality.

It needed a leader of government capable of being lenient when necessary, but acting firmly in the face of pressure and blackmail and especially in the face of "political challenge coming from the adversaries of socialism".

A recent upsurge of alarmist reports about the Polish situation which appeared daily in the Soviet and Soviet-bloc press, clearly suggested that Moscow was losing confidence in the ability of the Polish Government to halt the dangerous trend.

But Mr Kania went out of his way to dispel any such notion, and made a point of thanking the Soviet Union for its help, understanding, and particularly for its confidence in the ability of Poles to settle their difficulties alone.

He assured Moscow once again that Poland is, and would remain, socialist and of the party's determination to act firmly, and decisively against political adversaries who were trying to divert the country from its socialist course.

It is against such dramatic speaking that the Polish Roman Catholic Church has once again come out to support the authorities with a call for wisdom and restraint.

The Polish Roman Catholic bishops, who met yesterday, called on the nation to refrain from all action that might precipitate new tension, to avoid reacting in haste.

The bishops also warned the authorities that "nothing can be achieved by diktat" that social contracts of last autumn must be implemented.

Pope John Paul II, who today called on all sides in Poland's labour disputes to display calmness, maturity and a sense of responsibility—Reuters.

Crisis report: The report "The Polish Crisis: Western Economic Policy Options" by Professor Richard Portes, referred to on page 5 of *The Times* on Tuesday, is published by The Royal Institute of International Affairs, price £3.50.

Diary, page 14

## Mrs Thatcher to visit the Gulf

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is to

visit Saudi Arabia, Oman and

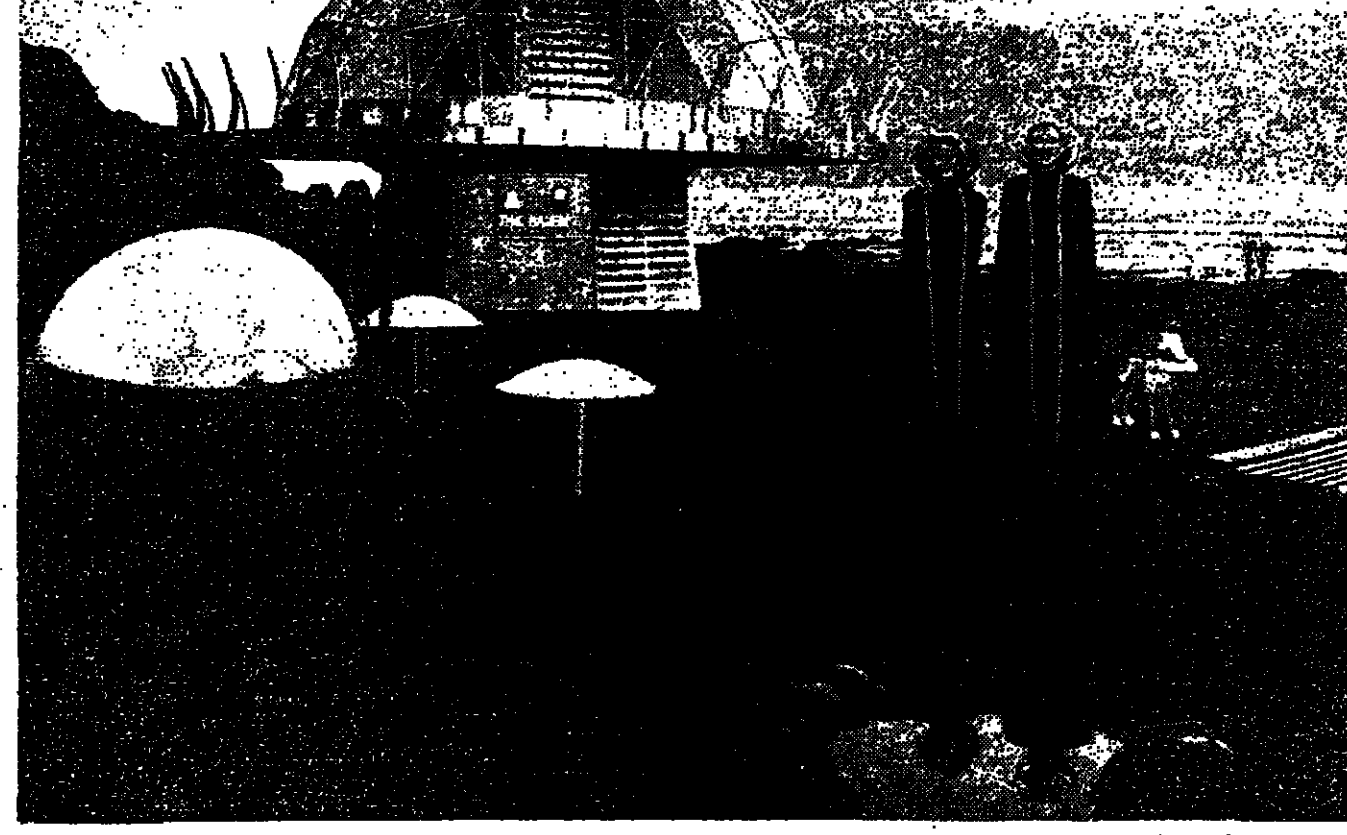
the United Emirates between

April 19 and 24, the first such

visit by a serving Prime Minister.

She will make the visits on the way home from her visit to India from April 15 and 19, it was announced from Number 10 Downing Street yesterday.

Diary, page 14



"We always wanted a little place by the coast when we retired."

To a lot of people, retirement is something they'd rather not think about. Which is a pity.

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## Israelis speed up seizures of land

From Christopher Walker

Jerusalem, Feb 11

Since the beginning of this year, Israeli military authorities have expropriated more than 5,500 acres of land in the occupied West Bank in an apparent attempt to maximize the territory under Jewish control before the general election of June 30.

Much of the expropriated land is to be used to establish new Jewish settlements or to expand those already established. Last week 1,500 acres were confiscated near the large Arab town of Nablus in order to provide an industrial sector for the isolated settlement of Ariel.

Other areas where land has been expropriated in recent weeks include the Arab town of Tubas, near Nablus, where about 1,000 acres were taken, and the Hebron district where nearly 2,000 acres were seized from nine different villages.

In addition the military government has recently published planning orders barring Arabs from building in the vicinity of all main roads in the West Bank as well as around army camps and some settlements.

Jewish settlers in Kiryat Atza and Gush Etzion, both south of Jerusalem, have been encouraged to "realize ownership" of land allocated to them by planting trees and erecting fences.

In almost every case of recent land seizure the military government has declared the area in question to be "state land" and given local Palestinians 21 days to produce the necessary deeds to prove otherwise. If the deeds are not forthcoming the military government then assumes the title as the acting sovereign power.

This week a letter protesting at the Israeli policy is to be circulated to all 120 members of the Knesset by Mr Eliaz Khoury, a prominent east Jerusalem lawyer who is planning to launch appeals in the Supreme Court against seven different cases of land seizure. He is acting on behalf of more than 200 West Bank families.

"The Israeli moves amount to the biggest land seizure operation since the West Bank was occupied in 1967," Mr Khoury said today.

Mr Khoury, who successfully challenged the legality of the Eilat Moreh settlement in 1979, claimed that the Israelis were now taking over land which had often been cultivated by Arabs for many years but which in most cases had never been properly surveyed.

"Often deeds to these lands just do not exist and it is impossible to organize and finance a survey in the 21 days allowed," he said. "In many instances the Jews are being given control of land formerly

used by Arabs to grow crops, graze animals or expand their villages."

Mr Khoury claimed that the tactic of seizing so-called "state land" was being used to circumvent the decision taken by the Government and later reinforced by the court ruling in the Eilat Moreh case, not to seize private Arab land for Jewish settlements.

"The Israelis are now trying to create facts so that if the Labour Party takes power it will not be able to change them again," Mr Khoury said. "In the process they are exploiting poor Arabs who are often ignorant of their rights."

Many Palestinians believe that a recent statement by President Reagan declaring that the West Bank settlements were not illegal has encouraged land seizure.

But advance warning of the policy now being adopted by the Israeli authorities was given in a Hebrew document published last September by Mr Mattityahu Drobless, chairman of the settlement division of the World Zionist organization.

"In light of the current negotiations on the future of Judea and Samaria, it will now become necessary for us to conduct a race against time," Mr Drobless wrote then.

"During this period everything will be mainly determined by the facts we establish in these territories and less by any other considerations."

## US not to press neutron bomb on Nato allies

From Our Own Correspondent

Washington, Feb 11

Reaffirming his personal support for the neutron bomb, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the new Secretary of Defence, said today that the controversial weapon could do "quite a lot" to restore an East-West balance of force in Central Europe.

In an interview with *The Washington Post*, he insisted, however, that the weapon, which he called by its technical title "the enhanced radiation warhead", would not be forced on America's Nato allies. "It's not that we are going to say, 'All right, it's here. You've got to take it or leave it,'" he said.

Mr Weinberger, who emphasized that he was speaking for himself, not for the whole of the new Reagan Administration, pointed out that the American Government had made a policy judgment some time ago that the neutron bomb was "a helpful addition to the strength of the theatre nuclear forces" in Europe.

If deterrence should fail and Soviet tanks moved into West Europe, the enhanced radiation produced by the neutron warheads would pierce the armour of the enemy tanks and kill their crews without contaminating the surrounding ground to the point where it could not be used by allied troops, he said. "I think it's a very good addition."



Officers' Technical Association (OTA), was not recognized by the Post Office. He applied for a permit to park his car at his place of employment, the Post Office at Newport. He was told that the allocation of permits was "up to the individual union concerned."

Mr. Carlson alleged that there was discrimination in that he had been told he could not park there because the Post Office was not recognized by the Post Office. Its members were not entitled to consideration for parking permits.

The Post Office requested that the allocation of spaces was the subject of a local agreement with the Council of Post Office Unions, (only those recognized

declared whether it was such purpose as was referred to in Section 23.

Witnesses: Everett & Tom Pontypool; Mr. S. Rothstein.

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## Occasion low skills and high temper

By Michael Seely

Wayward Lad and his wife are to miss their moments at Hunningdon this noon. For a moment they seemed that a leg injury might have put them from the brilliant young championward Lad to an abrupt halt.

"There was a sickening snap," said the trainer, "and I saw the tail and Wayward Lad so lame that we thought spin a pastern and might be destroyed."

After examining the horse he dealt of pus and gravel of his foot. With average speed he will be all right in a time."

It is bad luck on the day of the Hunningdon races should now look so pettite. Fulke Walwyn decided to run Bramham at Newbury tomorrow, preference to making on a day.

Lad in the Ely Steeplechase with the absence of the other two are now one two Dancing Brig and Havana.

The Sidney Banks Steeplechase is the valuable event of the day in the absence of Happy Valley two and a half mile race and the two mile race.

For the morning, his horse, Faulcon. His favorite this season have two handicaps and a hurdle race.

His wife was not menaced when narrowly fled, concede jumps of weight and the Hunningdon Steeplechase should prove to be for Lex, Glamour and Solimo.

Now that Stan Mellor has started to find his form, Stuart may be capable of a 5/6 penalty for his horse, which is a high bid for Steeplechase. Two likely winners at Hunningdon are the Hunningdon Steeplechase in the Glanton and

The price of the property  
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 river of the same name  
 on the north and east  
 sides, and by the  
 town of Northampton  
 on the south and west  
 sides. The property is  
 situated in the town of  
 Northampton, in the  
 county of Hampshire,  
 and is bounded by the  
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 of Northampton on the  
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Alefaat M. Wynd. 10-12-9 .....  
Dagelation, T. Tricks. 11-10-9 .....  
Gardner, J. W. 10-12-9 .....  
Gracian Muth. L. 10-12-9 Mr. Thoms  
Haines, Mrs. S. Stratton. 8-12-9 .....  
Hawkins, H. 10-12-9 .....  
Phantom Hills, D. Turner. 8-13-9 Mr.  
Precocious, Mrs. J. Bainbridge. ....  
St. Barbe, T. Long. 10-12-9 .....  
Sullivan, R. C. 10-12-9 .....  
Tennessee, R. D. Wandary. 4-12-9 Alefaat M.  
Wynd. 10-12 others.

**DIVICE RUDEE (Div I : 651 :**  
Aulis T. Fortner. 5-11-7 .....  
Barnes, E. P. 5-11-7 .....  
Chaford Ward, R. Kemmer. 6-11-7 .....  
Clewaring, L. McKee. 5-11-7 .....  
Conover, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Douglas Barrel, W. Deussen-Cole. 5-11-7 .....  
Downing George, G. Butler. 5-11-7 .....  
Faulkner, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Kankamewee, R. Harp. 5-11-7 .....  
Lambert, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Pisano, H. 5-11-7 .....  
Pearl, H. 5-11-7 .....  
Pearls Display, K. Cunningham-Brown.

Raisio, J. Thorne. 5-11-7 .....  
Remy Nightshade, J. Fortner. 5-11-7 .....  
Russian Prince, K. Dunn. Mr. Thompson  
Templing Park, G. Alfors. 5-11-7 .....  
Thompson, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Village Turpin, R. Head. 5-11-7 .....  
Gold Racer, L. Dodgen. 5-11-7 .....  
Carroll, H. 5-11-7 .....  
Barnes, B. Falling. 4-10-7 .....  
Royal Navy, J. Vaughan. 4-10-7 .....  
Mr. Williams, Mr. R. Lemay. 4-10-7 .....  
Carroll, H. 5-11-7 .....  
Barnes, B. Thruout Of Grace. 12-1 others.

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Brown Ross, R. Armistead. 8-11-7 C  
Calvin Mink, A. Drinnin. 8-11-7 C  
Carroll, H. 5-11-7 .....  
Craven Hall, N. Hobbs. 6-11-7 .....  
Gillham, T. Fortner. 6-11-7 .....  
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Manning Match, P. Torr. 6-11-7 .....  
Nelson, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Old Mary, J. Jenkins. 6-11-7 Mr  
Scots Messenger, J. Snodgrass. 5-11-7 .....  
Sorensen, R. Keener. 5-11-7 .....  
Truman Chief, M. Delboscho. 5-11-7 .....  
Warren Express, G. Bosley. 5-11-7 .....  
Ward, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Alanya, N. Mitchell. 3-10-7 .....  
Alberzi, J. Johnson. 4-10-7 .....  
Dennis, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Dennis, J. Moore. 4-10-7 .....  
Piercher, O. A. Barrow. 4-10-7 .....  
Piercher, S. Woodman. 4-10-7 .....  
York, J. 5-11-7 .....  
Shack, 4-1 Alanya. 5-1 York Turpin  
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## THE ARTS



From left: Sir George Grove, founder and first editor of the Dictionary of Music and Musicians, and his successors, J. A. Fuller Maitland, H. C. Colles and Eric Blom

# How the great Grove itself adapts to the new age

"This work", wrote George Grove in 1879 of his *Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, "is intended to supply a great and long acknowledged want". Characteristically, he attributed that want to the growing thirst for information arising from "the immense improvement in the general position of music which has taken place since the commencement of the present century. No one in Great Britain had attempted to supply the want so fully before; there had been terminological dictionaries, and some biographical ones. Grove's, published between 1877 and 1889, was the first encyclopedic music dictionary. It was designed for the use of Professional musicians and Amateurs alike", wrote Grove in his preface. He fixed its backward limit at 1500, "the most remote date to which the rise of modern music can be carried back". His view was essentially progressive and evolutionary: "The archaism which has been avoided, while the connection between the mediæval systems and the wonderful modern art to which they gave rise has been insisted on and brought out".

—in a scholar's communication with a wide audience. In the dictionary's preface, he wrote: "While the subjects have been treated thoroughly and in the most judicious manner, the attention of the professional musician, the style has been anxiously divested of technicality."

In seeking to serve "the general reader as much as the musician," as his assistant and editor-to-be of the second edition, J. A. Fuller Maitland later put it, Grove was in no sense dilettantish. While 302 of his 315 articles were written in English, British, he did seek out competent scholars from abroad, including many of the quality of Philip Spitta; and C. F. Pohl (whose Haydn entries Grove thought "too good to be true" and sent through to the fifth edition).

He approached editing in a thoroughly professional way. Herbert Parry, another writer who had been reading "We have some uncommonly dressed and tiresome work to do. If you could have seen the state in which some of the articles were sent in you would wonder how they could have been so sent. I remember we had not only to recast the details of the language of many of them, but to turn the articles inside out and upside down, to put the end of the sentence at the middle at the end, and to curtail whole paragraphs of rigid

marol till we were driven nearly distracted." Fuller Maitland's revision, published in five volumes (1904-10), did much to correct the picture that had arisen through the expansion of Grove's plan as the dictionary had progressed. He added corrections and additions, and pushed the date limit at 1450, the beginning of a scholarly development of the time dictated. Acoustical topics were now admitted and lists of works more methodically organized. Already, in fact, one of the beginnings of the kind of scholarly professionalism. Fuller Maitland was after all a trained scholar and musician in a sense that Grove, a civil engineer, was not. And while Grove had resented the intrusion of anything beyond fact, Fuller Maitland believed in stylistic assessment: "such critical remarks have been admitted, even in the case of living men, as are likely to give a more general and a more accurate idea of the special characteristics of the musicians dealt with."

He also stated the case as doubtless every editor has had to some time for ruthless selectivity: "no attempt has been made to include the name of every musician who might be held to deserve mention . . . but it is not in every case meet with universal approval; but it has

not been done without any careful weighing of the claims." A categorical, he might have added, is not a directory.

The editor of the third edition, H. C. Cole, left the *Furze* Maitland critic for 74 *Times*. By 1927 so much had happened that direct revision was no longer possible: there were numerous new entries, of course, and large additions to existing articles, many new placements of articles ("even some by the most eminent among Sir George Grove's contributors"), dissections, and abridgements. No director could be cumulative through successive editions; each generation must reassess it according to its requirements.

People once prominent may have turned out to be of only local or short-term importance, and have to be cut down to their new size or even omitted. All dictionaries—simply because of the time dust of the world—must be heavily weighted in favour of the century or so before their publication, and one like *Grove* which has many editions with such a prolonged life must, unless it is to undergo radical surgery. That, clearly, was evident as early as 1927. Cole was editor: too, of the fourth edition (1940), an updated reprint of the third, with a supplementary sixth volume.

For more than 25 years now

We have been relying on Eric Blom's fifth edition, published in nine volumes with a later supplement. This, as he said, was "the most thoroughgoing revision of a music encyclopedia" indeed it had to be. It was of course been heavily criticized—often unjustly. Its hints of chauvinism are not hard to find, but the other than that it was put together just after World War II. But it made a brave attempt to comprehend much new material of all sorts: as the time passed, a single edition is remarkable.

By the 1970s, the world of musical scholarship had so expanded that any new *Grove* had to be the product of a large editorial staff. The new edition is the account of the monumental *Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart*, published in fascicles between 1949 and 1969, which set new academic standards in music lexicography. To revise the fifth edition was never a realistic possibility: too much had happened in musical scholarship, and values had changed too radically. The *New Grove* in fact retains perhaps 90 per cent of the Blom edition.

It had, in the first place, to be more international than its predecessors, in our increasingly small world. A certain American world view, and other English-speaking composers cannot be excluded, nor

is it improper to the chief musical reference work of the English-speaking world, but on principle a Romanian or a Ukrainian should find a place in it. It is equally true that neither an Arab nor an American of equivalent achievement, this objective of consistency has had to be pursued in other ways, for example in the selection of titles. Those musical traditions there should be emphasized Madrid and Mexico City, Triana and Moscow belong there as well as Manchester.

Several subject areas had to be expanded if the dictionary was to serve both its traditional and its new functions. The world of serious music studies, Early music, for a start—this study of medieval, Renaissance and Baroque topics has adopted hugely, as indeed has public interest in the hundreds of now (or rather, old) composers had to be entered and those there before had to be reassessed more fully. The former, short, selective survey of the subjects as libraries and editions have been the sources had to give way to more comprehensive coverage if to be useful beyond a dilettante level.

Similarly, articles on major composers cannot now have 600 words, mainly for the English references, but must fully represent historical and

recent scholarship, irrespective of language. Non-Western and folk music are another large growth area. Grove could justly write that "all investigations into the music of the various nations have been avoided"; now there can be no "barbarous" nations, and the music of every culture is treated. In the fifth edition, there has been a new section on six: now they pass 98, 5 and 6 respectively. And new topics as diverse as Computer: Historiography, Iconography, Performing Practice and Sociology, demand to be dealt with. The New Grove has five times as many contributors as the fifth edition, and had teams of specialist readers and editors, and Tany's words about the first edition, "it is almost a year ago had many an echo. There is not the only respect in which the New Grove stands within the traditions of its precursors" but it has tried to interpret those traditions afresh in the light of present circumstances and needs for the continuing service of "Professional musicians and Amateurs alike".

**Stanley Sadie**

*"The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians", in 2 volumes, edited by Stanley Sadie, is due to be published next week. by Macmillan.*

figures for many years. The latest figures show that audiences for the first half of the season are far this season are 24 per cent up on last year, and taking into account the fact that the average has increased by 39 per cent.

The League of New York Theaters and Producers reported that 6,300,000 people attended Broadway shows during the first half of the season. The attendance for the first half of the season is expected to reach 11,500,000, close to the 12,000,000 record established back in 1927-28, the palm days before television made such inroads into live entertainment.

Among reasons cited for the upsurge are the large number of new shows running since these have a particular drawing power, and also the increase in foreign tourists visiting the city—the ticket prices for foreigners are 50 per cent more than for native New Yorkers who have watched prices increase by 75 per cent over the past five years.

■ Christmas this year should offer at least one real attraction for children—a new full-length Walt Disney production, *The Fox and the Hound* to tell the story of a young fox cub and a hound pup who grow up as friends until nature makes them enemies. It sounds a sure bet for making late summer and festive season.

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**L. S. Lowry: A  
Private View  
Granada**

**John Russell Taylor**

Several times recently it has seemed that BBC documentaries about art were hankering after drama, but somehow stopping short in that boozy-trapped no-man's-land where an actor, soberly clad as, say, Delacroix, would intone passages from the writhings in the intervals between bouts of more conventional camera roving among masterpieces. David Wheatley's film about the life and work of L. S. Lowry wisely decides to avoid this stage.

Lowry, a 70-year-old, 5-foot, 10-inch, 140-lb. man, spent his 40-hour-long factory in which the figures of Lowry and the various important characters in his life are re-created in dramatic terms. The film is based on his own purely fictional piece.

It is to the credit of all con-

cerned that though Mr. Wheatcraft's script is very properly concerned with accuracy and fairness, the film still comes over more, as a self-sufficient dramatic hybrid—a docudrama—than as that usually uncomfortable thing, a docu-drama. Though the focus is on the opening in the fortunes of one of those non-characters, the friend who's (apparently) "doing an interview and so can pop up every now and then to ask leading questions like, 'Was there ever a girl?'". The opening of the film is unobtrusive and has lots of the "cut to" and "off by the camera" Hepton's ingenious creation of character comes from little looks and pregnant pauses. Really, though, it serves principally to get us into their story proper, and that immediately picks up its own momentum.

The main attraction of Lowry as a character is his extreme oddity and myseriousness. He deliberately created a mystery about his lifelong job (rent collecting), and quite cheerfully admitted to lying, or at any rate making misleading statements.

**Emmylou Harris**  
**Apollo Victoria**

**Richard Williams**

Paramount among Emmylou Harris's virtues is an interest in actively promoting the cause of those young song-writers whose work is poised between country music and rock and roll but who have yet to be taken seriously by the conservative Nashville community. On the other hand, she is criticized for the sameness of her delivery, which fails to point up the differences between the songs' individual characters.

The first half of Tuesday's concert justified such complaints. Essentially a flip through her back pages, it included Rodney Crowell's "Even Colder," the "Blues," Tompall Smith's "A Touch of Lefty" and Willie Nelson's "Sister's Coming Home," all of which went by in an undifferentiated blur of bar-band arrangements. The exceptions

# Rachmani

LPO/Sanderling  
Festival Hall

## William Mann

It used to be supposed that self-imposed exile from his native Russia dried up the well-springs of Rachmaninov's creative imagination, exception being allowed for the Paganini Rhapsody, perhaps because it was built out of another composer's idea. By now it is clear that Rachmaninov remained a splendid composer all his life, albeit given to bouts of despondency.

Life outside Russia merely changed him into a different sort of composer.

The later, American Rachmaninov was the topic of Kurt Sanderling's concert on Tuesday with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, if you concede that the metamorphosis began from the time when the young pianist, who composed expressly for

nov outside

ficantly different in tone of voice from what he had composed before it.

Here, at any rate, is the onset of the cooler Rachmaninov, the supreme virtuoso of the piano still, the masterly musical architect more than ever, the aching heart no longer worn on the sleeve but half-concealed beneath the famous poker-face and an almost brash energy, then considered typically American, which most likely dominated his later works—that Rhapsody, the fourth piano concerto, the Symphonic Dances, the third symphony.

Sanderling paired the third piano concerto with the third symphony. He came to Rachmaninov the other way round, a Prussian musician who fled Nazi Germany for Soviet Russia; but he understands Rachmaninov's music completely. Throughout the concert he had all departments of the LPO at his disposal.

# Russia

He has a winning way with Rachmaninov, and, indeed, flabbiest yet still tense, voluptuous when appropriate—as at the end of the symphony's central movement, though musical fact mean more, inferably, to him than surface glamour, and the finale sounded anti-climactic because he would not disguise its emptiness underneath smart gift-wrapping, as Grieg did, for example, to parsimoniously can.

At least the first two movements were marvelously interpreted, and the finale compelled attention by sheer verve and expertise. In the concerto John Lill was an equally honest soloist, cool and brilliant; strong yet delicate. His reading had to be heard, but was disappointing because of the range, depth of keyboard colour, the fascination of the composer's piano playing were not there. It was like watching television in black-and-white when you are accustomed to a colour screen.

## Royal Ballet's jubilee line

The Royal Ballet's jubilee will be celebrated this summer in special seasons at Covent Garden and Sadler's Wells and on tour. Works representative of the company's history will be given, but there is also to be emphasis on the future with several new productions. They include Kenneth MacMillan's *Isadora*, to a score by Richard Rodney Bennett, which has its first performance at the Royal Opera House on April 30, and a season of several young choreographers. David Bintley, Jonathan Burrows, Michael Croder, Derek Deane and Jennifer Jackson, to be given at Sadler's Wells on April 7.


On the actual anniversary of the company's first full performance, May 5, Princess Margaret will attend the per-

to extend beyond Lowestoft where the new statue of a sailor has caused all sorts of fuss. Norwich is also pursuing a policy of filling some of its open spaces with new works of art.

Derek Morris, head of sculpture at Norwich College of Art said: "There is the odd niche with century statue and there's a bust of Shakespeare. But this has very little contemporary anything." So the Norfolk Contemporary Art Society has already acquired two sculptures: a mother and child in bronze by George Fullard and the cathedral precinct and an abstract steel sculpture by Peter Wensum.

Although there were no protests on the scale of Lowestoft, Mr Morris said the sculptural did get a mixed reception, at the mother and child group, a controversial treatment of the subject", had been vandalized with spray paint.

Nevertheless the society understands that the Norfolk and Norwich Triennial Festival it is organizing a com-



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Interested off the track. And his emotional life remained his own secret—perhaps secret even to himself. At times, however, in his life he kept returning in his painting to the image of a young woman whom he called Ann, apparently a childhood sweetheart, and to suggest that she suggested had died many years before, sometimes implied was still alive.

The period background and the visual materials of Lowry's work are so carefully chosen that his figures are finely evoked, and the paintings themselves are economically used when they are not. The stark, starkly increasing anguished, expressionistic self-portraits. Malcolm Tierney, aging internally as well as externally from 20 to 70, is a fine example of a pawkly, ironic charm of this awkward old cuss very well, emphasizing the freedom he

Fortunately, the second ball was a more successful one, beginning with Dolly Parton's enjoyably mawkish "To Daddy," she went on to demonstrate that, given arrangements of suitable variety, she does have a lot to offer all. A pleasant selection of bluegrass songs included a gentle but suitably grave "Wayfaring Stranger," which she gave us some of the songs from her new album, outstanding among which were Robbie Robertson's evocative "Evangeline," James Taylor's resigned "Back Home Again" and the bluesy "Crawling" (and Crowell's powerfully ironic "I Don't Have to Crawl").

The surprises were her treatments of "Mr Sandman" and "The High Heeled Shoe," performed in the style of Dan Hicks and His Fog Licks. In

**Amadeus**  
**Queen Elizabeth Hall**  
**Noel Goodwin**  
Although a convalescent Siegmund Nissel was not yet well enough to rejoin his colleagues on the Amadeus Quartet on Tuesday, their programme carried the hope that he will be back for their next date here in April. Meanwhile, they were able to make the best of the opportunity for the remaining three to stay with Beethoven for this occasion, and in place of the intended quartet to remind us what pleasure is to be overlooked in the string trios.

Three of the five works Beethoven wrote in this form made up the programme, the

times been thought to suggest that he found the three-part character musically unsatisfactory, inferior to as the nineteenth century successors certainly seem to have done). Yet it only needs even part of this case to go to disperse any such belief.

The six movements in it bring it more into the category of a sonata, in so far as there is a Mozart-like air in the same key (G  $\sharp$  3/4) very clearly in the background, one which the Amadeus players included in their last concert here. Their performance methods in this time acknowledged in particular in the often Mozartian terms of phrase, notably in the conversational responses of the first movement and the elegance of the two minuet, though I should have liked a more marked syncopation in

Although not Beethoven's first music written in this key, it is deeply characteristic of his dramatic sense, in which he laments the loss of his hearing and puts it into a fantasy of the world as he would realize it by the manner in which the players carried through the momentum of each phrase, and the weight of the music present in the yellow account of the Scherzo.

No shadows at all were allowed to cloud the socially minded pleasures of the dramatic major Trio, Op 8, which Beethoven properly called a *Scherzo*. Here the performance was a little delayed in conveying the many and varied touches of humour from the cello, barking at his runaway colleagues as they tried to escape from the sentimental madcap, to the happy ending of the Polonaise and the diversive

in the leading roles. That same evening at the Hippodrome, Bristol, Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet will give *The Raké's Progress*, a comedy with a selection of short pieces. Both Royal Ballet companies will take part at Covent Garden on May 25 and May 30 in three performances of a special anniversary programme which will be a secret as a surprise for the audience.

The jubilee performances at the Royal Opera House will be accompanied by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, as the Covent Garden Orchestra will then be appearing in Manchester with the same orchestra. David Atherton will conduct a series of programmes from May 22 to May 25.

BBC Television will transmit three special programmes during May, and in early June

the central library. The price of the money is expected to be £700,000.

■ Francois Truffaut's latest film, *The Last Metro* has won the highest of French film awards, the Césars. The story is about a French theatre owner who literally went underground during the German occupation and ran his shows from the cellars of the city. Truffaut, the Césars, including the award for best film, best director, best actor (Gérard Depardieu) and best actress (Catherine Deneuve) release of *The Last Metro* has been decided. Britain has yet been decided but negotiations are in train.

■ Here's a Funny Thing: The show about Max Miller by Bill Shakespeare, *The Times* Northern Industrial Correspondent, proved such a success

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raciness of the close harmonies, "How High" boasted a full-blooded bebop guitar solo from the impressively articulate Frank Raskard.

Those were followed by Parsons' "Hot Burrito No 2," on which the band hit a fine low-slung groove that was almost country, almost rhythm and blues, and not quite either, and a punchy rock and roll song with ram-fiddle solo all around including a piano interlude by Don Johnson which worked in a hilarious quotation from Ramsey Lewis' "The In Crowd". Strange, though, that she has failed to mention Parsons' love-song, "Hickory Wind", his poignant, aching, tender ballad. For her voice, but once again she pushed its sustained notes too hard.

---

Patrick Magee and Helen Mirren will lead the cast in the English premiere of Brian Friel's *Ruth* Monday night, 10 p.m. at the Royal Court, on Friday 25. Christopher Fettes will direct the play.

that. The fact that the composer wrote all his string urios before he was 30 and thereafter changed to quartets has some-

**Hamish Milne**  
**Purcell Room**

**Max Harrison**

Listening to Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor, originally for the organ, it was hard to know which to admire most, the music, Busoni's transcription or Hamish Milne's performance. The sheer invention with which Busoni drew from the organ's so completely a set of equivalents to the organ's many voices, does indeed capture one's imagination, the more so as Mr Milne's playing was of such monumental clarity inescapably suggesting architectural perspectives of steel and glass.

Certainly his Bach-Busoni piece made a great impression of spaciousness, and it may

information in that work were safely resolved for the weightier matters on the C minor Trio, Op. 9, No. 3.

have been the abrupt change of scale which made me wonder if the start of Haydn's D major Sonata (HOB. XVI/37) ought not to have been more vehement. But not for long, because the movement's momentum and piquancy were etched so acutely. The Largo deals with more sombre aspects of experience, and one may wonder how fully it could have been projected on the light-toned pianos of Haydn's time. Mr Milne's reading was heightened so that this music's dark shadows were altogether present.

Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 109, emerged very much as a human document also, with the first movement's haste and hesitation suggesting the need of expiation. The explosive passion was delivered with uncommon definition, and with a fiercely hued tone that was still more unusual. Beethoven's conclusion

though you would never have thought: it from the solemnity of the audience's collective countenance.

ing Variations seemed less searching than the rest of this memorable evening's playing—largely, I believe, because of too fast a basic tempo.

Three of Medtner's rarely heard Szakzi reviewed performance—his mastery, authority, however. These three, in understanding, these are major statements, luxuriant in the proliferation of their textures yet deeply concentrated. The true rarity, though, was Liszt's *Imitationes de la Nature*, which he wrote in 1835, among his initial operatic fantasies. Balgley's themes serve, indeed, merely as an excuse for one of the first great essays in romantic pianism.

It would be easy, and quite correct, to say that Mr. Medtner surpassed himself here, but it is more pointed to say that we were given a sense of a new world discovered.

ing the Royal Ballet. There will be a costume exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum from April 8 until July 26, and an exhibition at Liberty's for three weeks starting April 29. Two books will be published to mark the jubilee: a history of the company by Alexander Black and a book of pictures assembled by John Woodcock, with text by Katherine Sorley Walker.

**John Percival**

**Helpmann's Hamlet, and ballet again**

The Royal Ballet is to revive Robert Helpmann's *Hamlet*, which was first presented in 1942. It will be seen first on April 2, with Anthony Dowling in the title role, as part of a quadruple bill which is completed by *Les Sylphides*, the *pas de deux* from Sir Frederick Ashton's *Sylvia* and Kenneth Macmillan's *Gloria*.

The small Lyric studio will easily sold out for the initial short run, so now the show will run with John Bardon as Cheeky Chappie, will be presented in the main theatre from April 13 for two weeks.

■ *The Duchess of Chicago* and *The Queen of the Gramophone* are two of the virtually forgotten operettes which will be the subject of some research work later this month by Opera Rara. On February 2 at Sadler's Walls, the company will present an evening of melodies from little-known works by composers including Offenbach, Lehár and Kalman.

**NOT TO BE MISSED:** The first chance to see in Britain the full three-act version of *Berg's Lulu* comes on Monday at Covent Garden, with Kara Armstrong in the title role.

**Martin Huckerby**

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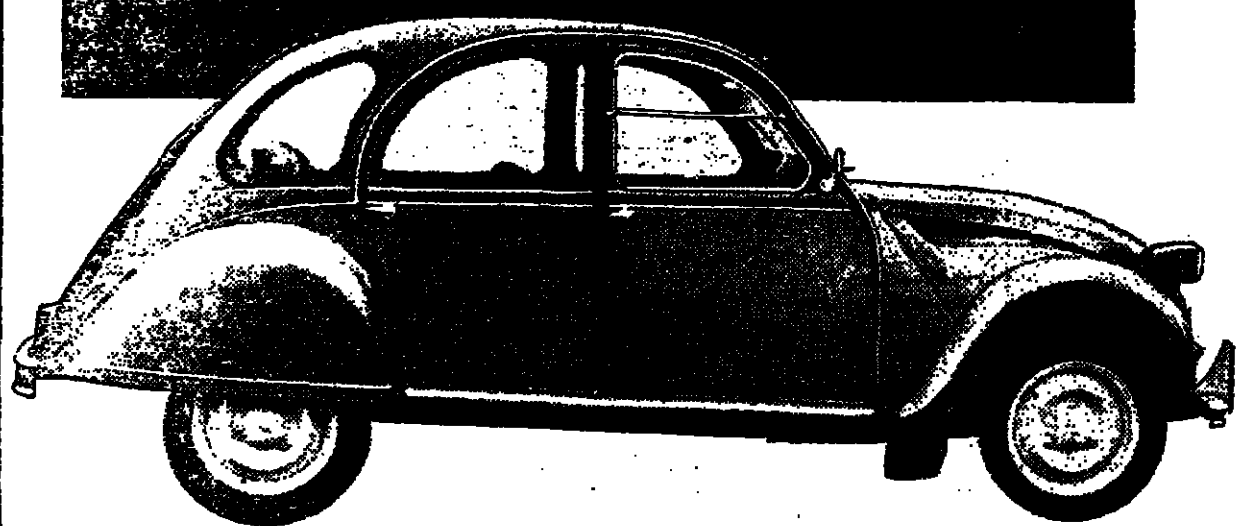


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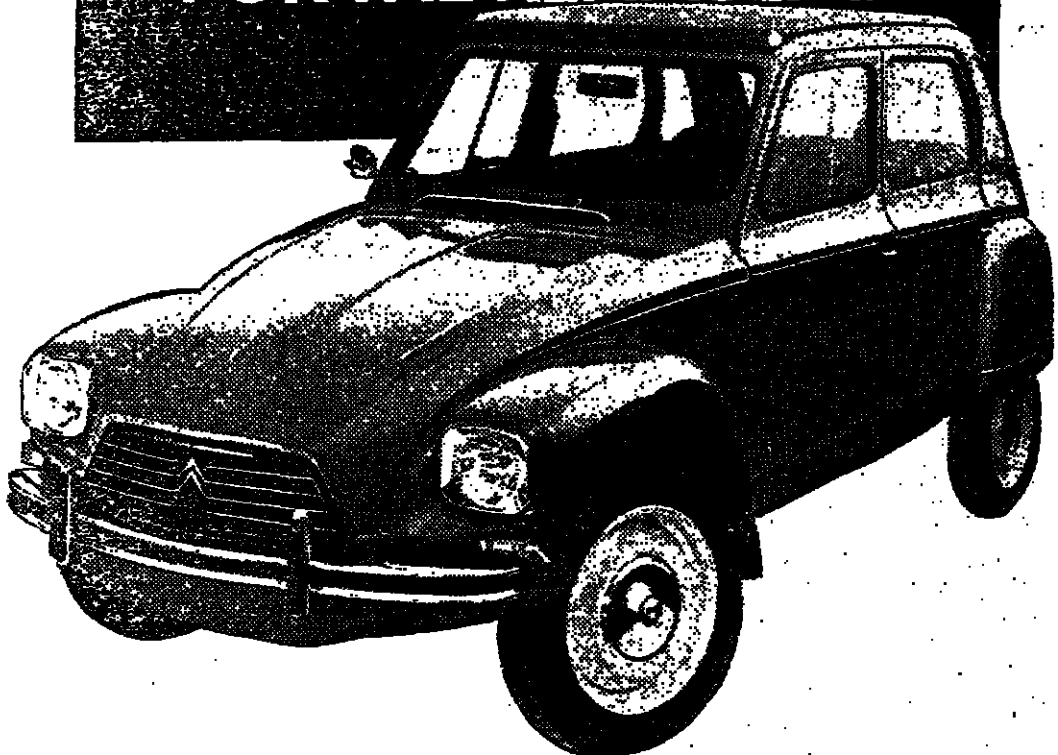
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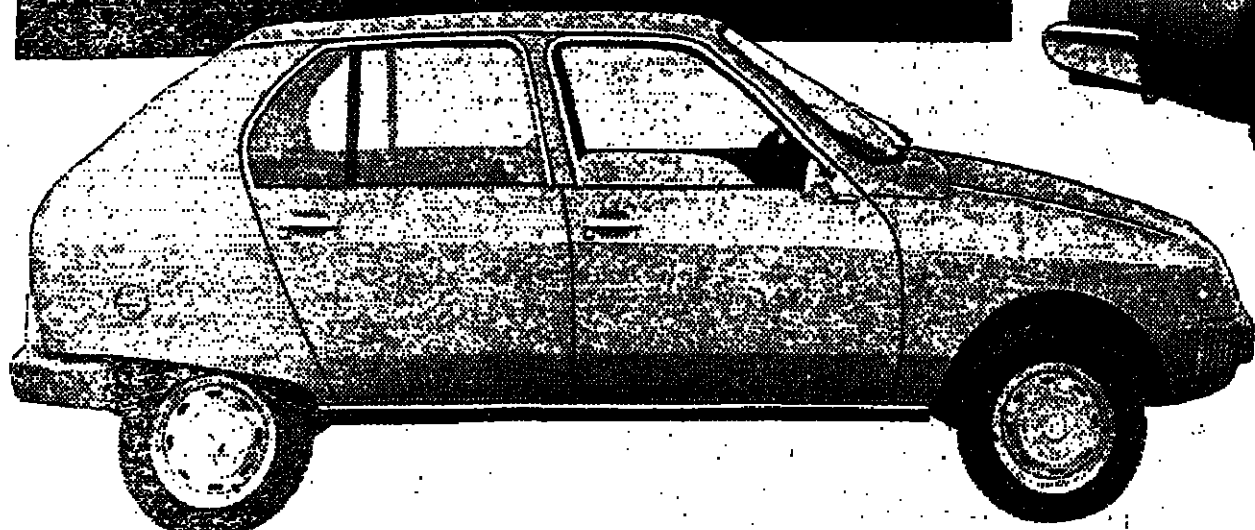
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Bernard Levin

# Mrs Thatcher and the baffling case of the missing index-link

In the matter of the index-linked pensions she suddenly goes coy and hands the whole thing over to a committee who throw the poisoned chalice into the nearest dustbin and run for the hills...



It is said that Mrs Thatcher is displeased at the meagre results of the Scott inquiry into the matter of index-linked pensions. If she is, I can only say to her "Tu l'as voulu, Georges Dandin". Did she, or anybody in the Government, really expect anything better or other than the collection of tautologies that the inquiry has produced?

Hark: "It is a highly desirable social objective that the standard of living of those in retirement should be protected". Hark again: "Good pensions, like anything else, have to be earned and paid for during working life and the burden to be shouldered over the next 20 years will steadily grow". Hark yet again: "We suggest that the Government should look seriously at the case for issuing indexed bonds to cover pension liabilities". Hark once more: "In our work, if we have been forcibly reminded that the main objective of public policy must be to beat inflation, we have also been reminded of the serious concern that pensions over a high proportion of the private sector are not good enough". Hark finally (though I could go on for a couple of columns): "If as a society we fail to face these realities we shall find that the precept 'it is a highly desirable social objective that the standard of living of those in retirement should be protected' will be but an empty phrase".

Well, Sir Bernard Scott and his team can certainly claim to be connoisseurs of empty phrases. Indeed, it could be said that there is not a single full phrase anywhere in their report, and I have no doubt that it was only their commendable wish not to delay the birth of their mouse that prevented these eminent mountaineers from adding words to the effect that, other things being equal, fine weather is preferable to hailstorms, that, allowing for a proper margin of error in such complex calculations, 30 days had September, April, June and November, and that startlingly unorthodox view though many might consider it, a straight line is the shortest distance between two points.

But my complaint today is not directed at the inquiry itself and the way in which its members have run away from every question they considered, even including the one they were not asked to consider but

did anyway. Computer scientists have a useful acronym, GIGO, which stands for "Garbage in, garbage out" and it sums up my feelings about the debacle of this report. For the truth is that Mrs Thatcher did not need to set up any such inquiry, and should not have done so. It is the job of Prime Ministers and their governments to take decisions, and it is most emphatically the job of this particular Prime Minister, if she wants to be distinguished from her predecessors by any difference more crucial than that she is the only one (so far as we know, anyway) to wear lipstick and pearls, not to take refuge behind Royal Commissions, Select Committees, Advisory Inquiries or any of the other devices for avoiding action that governments have for many years used.

Come, let me put it as starkly as possible. I voted for Mrs Thatcher for a large number and variety of reasons, but four, though not necessarily the most important, seem to me in retrospect to have assumed a profound symbolic significance. They are: that she should not give jobs in her government to people like Mr

Hector Monro, that she should not give expensive quangos to people like Mr Ivor Richard, that she should not provide seats in Parliament for people like Mr Victor Matthews, and that she should make up her own mind on the questions her office obliges her to answer, and not try to avoid doing so by asking somebody else to answer them for her. She had already broken my first three rules, and she has now broken the fourth as well: indeed, she has done worse, for she has broken one that was not even in the original contract, to wit that if she did succumb to the temptation to live off her responsibility, she should at least choose for the job a group of people who would not instantly flee from it themselves. Is she running a government, or playing pass-the-parcel?

Harsh words, no doubt. But consider: suppose, instead of producing a report for which the only suitable response is a couple of columns of gripe-water and a vigorous patting on the back, the inquirers had delivered something that expressed a view. Suppose they had expressed

her eyes: she can't change the latter, and she can't indefinitely evade the former. Not long ago, the suggestion was made that some kind of independent body should be set up, with statutory powers to control the money supply, so that governments would no longer have recourse to the printing-press when they felt the need to pump popularity into their electoral fortunes by pumping cash into the economy. I cannot remember who put this wheeze forward, though I hope it wasn't me, because it strikes me as about the daftest notion I have heard for a very long time indeed.

Governments are elected, in countries like ours, to govern. True, they rarely do what they are elected to do, and still less often do they do it well, but that, and nothing else at all, is what their job consists of, and what makes the present affair all the more lamentable is that Mrs Thatcher and some of her Ministers had been showing every sign of doing their proper work for their wages: at the very least, you will surely agree that she does not appear to be a woman who doesn't know her own mind. Yet in the matter of the index-linked pensions—a matter over which, ironically enough, she must sooner or later declare her own mind—she suddenly goes coy and hands the whole thing over to a committee, who throw the poisoned chalice into the nearest dustbin and run for the hills.

Serve her right. For in addition to the reasons, listed above, for my decision to vote for her, there was another, and that one the most powerfully persuasive of all. It was that I wanted a Prime Minister who could not, even in the thickest fog, be mistaken, even by the most shortsighted of observers, for Sir Harold Wilson or Mr James Callaghan. And if she is to continue to be readily distinguished from that previous pair, she had better make it clear very soon that she is always willing to take her own decisions.

Boswell tells of Dr Johnson taking a too hot potato in his mouth at dinner and promptly spitting it out upon the tablecloth. In the silence that followed he was heard to say coolly: "Now a fool would have swallowed that." My advice to Mrs Thatcher is to make up her mind on the question of index-linked pensions for the public service, and then swallow.   
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## Is Spain disillusioned with democracy?

Madrid. The resignation of Senor Adolfo Suarez has left a temporary power vacuum in an already troubled Spain—what the intentions of the country's prime minister for the past four and a half years about attempting a comeback later.

Nerves are on edge because this is the first real political crisis since the democratic constitution came into effect in 1978 and Senor Suarez left his office in December 1979.

The UCD's party conference last weekend in Palma brought into the open these differences which are now especially inappropriate. The wife of a professor at Majorca's new university commented to me: "It seems democracy is fated to be only an interlude in Spain. There is a succession of weak and unstable governments, whether they are built around the UCD or the socialist party (PSOE) of Senor Felipe Gonzalez and especially if the accompanying economic and social problems worsen."

Many Spaniards still have little "depth" to their politics and have too quickly now become disillusioned with democracy as many were too enthusiastic about it three or four years ago. But all have votes and the democratic forces at election time.

An old army general raised his voice last weekend against all Spain's politicians, though it made little visible impact where it should have been heeded most—the UCD conference. He had been outraged by the incident in which King Juan Carlos was involved last week in Guernica at the hands of the extremist Basque nationalist party Herri Batasuna ("Basque Unity") and the cold-blooded killing 48 hours later by ETA of the more anarchically extremist of the two Basque terrorist groups, a kidnapped nuclear engineer.

Published in *El Alcazar*, the far right daily of the Civil War combatants' association, General Fernando de Santiago, who was deputy premier in the first Suarez government, wrote: "In Guernica they insulted Spain and the King, who is the supreme commander of the armed forces and, therefore, they offended all of us who wear uniform."

The political parties at this time do not represent the people who, defrauded, have turned their backs on this cubing. Things have gone too far, the hour has arrived that we should stop this breaking up of our national unity and save Spain."

Such old-fashioned nationalistic tones could hardly be in greater contrast to the speech Juan Carlos made after waiting patiently for the Herri Batasuna men to be elected from Guernica's Casa de Juntas by security guards.

Giving an outstandingly liberal interpretation to Basque history, the King told the rest of Spain that Basque home rule, through the exercise of its *Fueros* (historic rights) had never disrupted national unity. On the contrary, he went on, "It must be recognized that the integration of the Basque country through its links with the crown only became a problem when the traditional policy of mutual loyalties, which had been at the basis of our union, was broken."

Guernica was the highpoint of the King's visit which ended, whether serving military men approved or not, with a symbolic embrace at San Sebastian's airport between Juan Carlos and Senor Carlos Garaioa, Chief Minister of the new Basque autonomous regional government.

The king's visit was courageous and a success in the campaign, which is now of the highest importance, to isolate ETA. To judge by Monday's massive protest demonstrations throughout the Basque country, the *Euzkadi* have themselves speeded up the process by assassinating José Maria Ryan Estrada, chief engineer building the Lemona nuclear power plant near Bilbao. Basque workers' class ETA claims to be fighting a "liberate" had vainly appealed to them for his life in an open letter in *Deia*, the Basque nationalist daily.

The Basque visit and the government crisis have brought the King, momentarily at least, into the political arena. Months back Juan Carlos ordered his aides to prepare a study of European constitutional precedents, for he is as much interested in a stable government being formed by the politician he nominates under article 62 of the Constitution as any Spanish democrat. The UCD politicians resist the idea of general elections while their internal conflicts persist, after a series of disastrous election defeats last year—in a Seville by-election they polled only 8.3 per cent of the vote.

But the King wants to keep the constitution—the four-year life of the legislature does not end till 1983—because he senses any departure might begin a process of unravelling democracy. What is at stake now is the ability of the democratic parties to give Spain good government. Franco's governments did not need to obtain popular endorsement by solving problems. Immigrant workers' remittances home, foreign investment and Spain's sunshine for the tourists during western Europe's prosperous rain past decades gave the man in the street progress, however erratic.

But the UCD has now in tackle the same economic and social problems baffling other western governments and sort out its own identity. The transition period to democracy is also over for the UCD. Senor Suarez believes it is as an interclass party that the UCD can still go on winning elections despite changed economic times.

But the other third of the party believes the UCD's future can only be as a conservative or moderate right party like those elsewhere in Europe, attracting more exclusively middle-class interests as the PSOE advances on the moderate left.

What the UCD cannot go on doing, they argue, is to keep amassing votes from all sectors of a society come newly to democracy by means of a party apparatus which caters to this sort of generalization but which neglects to attend to any of that electorate's needs. All the talk in Palma about "internal party democracy" was really about having the power to respond to the interests of a clearly defined electorate. The alternatives, the critics say, is massive abstentions or a switch by electors to other parties next time.

Richard Wigg

Ronald Butt

## The bogus race charges against the Nationality Bill

The Government's British Nationality Bill, which has this week begun its committee stage in the House of Commons, was scarcely in print before it was attacked by those who have vigorously resisted every proposal to control immigration in the last 40 years.

They hardly needed to read and digest it to know that it was in principle a bad Bill, and they were confident that the pressure groups which had provided them in the past with the righteous ammunition of arguments and statistics would be able to instruct them in the detail of its badness. And why was the Nationality Bill bad? Because, as their repeated argument has it, this is not so much a Nationality Bill as another immigration measure based on "race".

Yet how can this or any other Bill seeking to define nationality, and to determine a person's right to it, not be related to immigration? If the British Isles were still, as they were from the Middle Ages until the beginning of this century, untroubled by any attempts at large scale migration of other peoples we should not need to define nationality. What makes it necessary to do so now are the consequences of a migration that has not stopped yet. This, of course, is the answer to Mr Roy Hattersley's claim that the

Bill reverses a 700-year-old right of anyone born here to British citizenship. In fact, that ancient right was to be a subject of the crown and it made perfect sense when the difficulty of travel made impossible the sort of abuses that can occur today.

In the aftermath of the old imperial sentiment, we were naturally reluctant at first to impose restraints when the number of immigrants was comparatively small, manageable numbers, they were welcomed, but the rate of immigration became such that efforts had to be made to control it by new laws. Each one of these was more or less rendered ineffective by the willpower of those who have opposed every immigration law and now the Nationality Bill as "racist". Their technique of opposition was simple but devastating. They created a new equation between immigration control and what they call "race" and they again seeking to kill the new Bill by applying this well-tried formula to it.

So on what grounds do they attack the new Bill as "racist"? They do so because, they say, it will in practice hit people who are, in their preferred emotive terminology, "black"—by which they mean (if one must follow them in their obsession with pigmentation) mostly brown or yellow, since the extent of Caribbean immigration is no longer significant and is in any case probably easier to absorb

than the culturally and linguistically more different groups from Asia. Yet how can this or any other Nationality Bill avoid affecting mainly brown or yellow people since it happens to be principally these people who are either seeking to come in, or whose present possession of citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies (though giving them no right of residence here) might be cited as the basis of "moral" claim to residence in certain possible future circumstances?

The Bill's opponents claim that it has a bias against the non-white commonwealth, but this is bound to be so since it is from the non-white commonwealth that immigration (with the evasion of immigration controls) has largely come and remains likely to come. If it came mainly from the white commonwealth it would be the white commonwealth that was principally affected by the Bill—and what would become of the "racist" argument then?

Or let us suppose that, by some magic formula, the Indians, Chinese and Malaysians whose rights are said to be affected by the Bill could be whitened; or let us pretend that they were no more different from the British majority than Poles or Germans. Would the charge of "racism" still stand against the Bill?

In their attack on the Nationality Bill, some of the religious leaders, egged on by the pressure groups



Archbishop Worlock: "It must be racist..."

operating on this subject inside their churches, have seemed less than rational. In the case of the Roman Catholic archbishops, led by Cardinal Hume and Archbishop Worlock of Liverpool, I will go so far as to say that their reaction has been impertinent in the worst sense of the word—that is to say it is not pertinent to the true

nature of the argument and also, in its detailed attack on a parliamentary measure, goes beyond their proper province.

In Monday's BBC *Panorama*, Archbishop Worlock of Liverpool said of the Bill: "Well, it must be racist, or at least, in the sense that it implies that the Bill is really going to deal with people who are going to be included or excluded because of where they come from and the colour of their skins."

If the people so dealt with were white? Would it still be racist? And what is race? And is the archbishop saying that because the people affected principally may be brown or yellow they should be free of restraints which could properly be imposed on them without charge of racism, if they were white?

These naive episcopal interventions are more likely to stir up racial tensions than, as the bishops obviously wish, to damp them down. Since they encourage the propaganda of the less reasonable immigrant leaders that their communities are persecuted while waiting to be admitted to the right of protection for the British identity is "ruined". To criticize the Roman Catholic hierarchy in this way will in some seem shocking and disrespectful, but if the bishops choose to come down into the political arena with

detailed political argument, they must face the same sort of criticism that can properly be levelled at politicians.

Of course, there are always moral and religious questions underlying the law as it affects the behaviour of human beings to each other, and one such question is how we deal with people of another "race", nation or family. Of course, the archbishops have a duty to speak on the principles which should guide conduct in such matters as they do, quite properly, when they state categorically the sanctity of human life in opposing euthanasia or abortion.

Yet curiously in this matter of "race" they seem to speak with an attention to detail and an expectation that the details of the law should be written to their approval which has never applied, I think, to their approach to abortion. Here, while leaving their own flock in no doubt about what is right and while supporting attempts to tighten the law in their direction, they have never thought it right to prescribe what the law determined by the parliamentary majority should say. Now, however, they are virtually demanding that the Nationality Bill should be written to their approval and to satisfy in detail the nine principles which they outlined in 1979. They have condemned the Bill as "misconceived" (even though the majority would support it) and have demanded that the Home Secretary should reconsider

it, claiming for themselves an expertise in determining the consequences of this or that clause, for which I should have thought their qualifications were not great.

On *Panorama*, Archbishop Worlock again demanded (quite against British custom, which eschews this sort of generalization) that the Bill should begin with a ringing declaration that Britain's identity is multi-racial, rejecting Mr William Whitelaw's view that this is in any case self-evident. Well, let the archbishop say what he means by race, racial and multi-racial since such terms, if ended might become a matter for the law courts. What better opportunity could he have for a return to medieval scholasticism?

Of course Britain is now multi-racial in the sense that there are large numbers of people of different colour sharing the origin and common culture of the majority and this is not to be changed. But having accepted this, what more must the majority do to purge themselves of the bogus charge of racism?

The Nationality Bill, hardly a lion of a measure, has already been weakened on two important points under pressure. Still, it is something that an attempt is being made to define a British nationality for the future. It is a start towards rebuilding national cohesion. The underlying question remains: what is the morality of nationhood, that is a subject to which I hope to return.

## LONDON DIARY

### Polish corridor without power

One side effect of the current events in Poland is that prime ministers of that country now appear to have a security of tenure marginally less than that of English football managers. Yesterday I had the pleasure of discussing the Warsaw political climate with the Polish prime minister who has held down the job without serious challenge for the past five years. Kazimierz Sabbat would be the first to admit he is not a serious threat to General Jaruzelski, who moved into Eastern Europe's hottest seat this week. Sabbat is a south London businessman who since 1976 has headed the Polish government-in-exile, a hang-over from the last major re-drawing of European boundaries at Yalta in 1945, which still maintains a brave presence at Eaton Place, SW1, with a full cabinet of 11 ministers.

Sabbat, who leads a loose coalition of independents, took power from the Socialist predecessor in 1976, and was confirmed in office in the general election of 1978, in which one quarter of the 150,000-strong Polish community in Britain voted. His

greatest success in office is to have been vilified in a recent edition of the Soviet journal *Literary Gazette*, in which the Eaton Place Cabinet was described as directing the counter-revolutionary forces aimed at removing Communist government from Poland.

The Soviets were too kind: Eaton Place does not have that degree of influence.

"We are the focus of political activity abroad, and the inspiration of people at home but I do not see us actually ever returning to take power in Warsaw", Sabbat said. "Our main purpose is to represent a true picture of Poland in the West."

The old Poland has kept a presence in London since the Polish government moved here during the war. The current President is Count Edward Raczyński, who prefers a discreet home near Harrods to the official presidential residence in Eaton Place.

Sabbat insists that the London Polish government does not engage in any kind of counter-revolutionary activity, although it does collect money and send food parcels back home.

When I spoke to him, Sabbat was surprisingly moderate in his views of his newly-installed rival in Warsaw: "There is one thing to Jaruzelski's credit: during the strikes last

August, he stated clearly that the Polish army should not shoot Polish workers. Whether he will be able to maintain this posture, no one knows."

His views on the Soviet threat to Poland were less compromising: "Russia has swallowed too much. Poland is a foreign body stuck in the Soviet block's throat. They do not want to spit us out, but they cannot swallow us."

Sabbat thought that direct Soviet intervention was not imminent, and that the use of war between the government and the emergent workers' movements would continue for some little time yet. And if in the more distant future there were ever to be a non-Communist government in Warsaw, he conceded, it would come from inside Poland rather than from Eaton Place.

### Canada calling

It is a pleasant change to be able to report political machinations concerning Canada, a nation normally regarded by headline-hungry news editors as one of the most dull and unproductive corners of the earth, at least since Margaret Trudeau took flight in search of a gayer life.

Being appointed British High Commissioner in Ottawa has not been regarded in the past

as one of the more challenging posts with which to crown a diplomatic career, but the job has suddenly become, if not a hot seat, at least a fairly warm one as the fires of constitutional crisis are fuelled by dark reports of telephone bugging at the Canadian High Commission in London.

The choice of Lord Moran as our new man in Ottawa is significant. He is the son of Sir Winston Churchill's doctor who wrote a splendidly indiscreet memoir on the old man. Friends of the younger Moran who know him well say he is considerably more discreet than his father, and is an ideal man to fill a diplomatic post which has suddenly become sensitive.

Lord Moran was described to me yesterday as the model of a British diplomat, good-looking in a very English sort of way despite his 56 years, and above average intelligence for a career Foreign Office man. (That is not to imply that all the rest are boneheads, merely that Moran is particularly articulate and well-read.) In private, however, he tends to be reserved rather than gregarious.

He moves to Ottawa from Lisbon, where he was put in as ambassador after the Portuguese revolution, another case of a once-posting becoming delicate and requiring the talents of a sensitive man.

### My dad agonised longer over leaving the Labour Party than you did...



Before that he was our man in Budapest.

On the other hand, friends of Mrs Jean Wadds, the Canadian High Commissioner in London, have expressed surprise at her telephonic phobia. Those who knew her in previous incarnations, first as daughter and

wife of wealthy Ontario Conservatives, and later as a Canadian MP and party secretary, could not recall her clutching under desks for bugs or looking compulsively over her shoulder. I managed to find one associate who recalled having a conversation with her, spy-style, in close proximity to running water to foil the microphones, although the water was actually coming from a garden hose.

There is some doubt, however, that the leaked diplomatic cables mentioning wiretapping by the British actually emanated from Mrs Wadds, who is more of a hostess than a diplomat. When the constitutional issue began to boil last November a certain Mrs Reeves Haggan was flown in from Canada as a "special adviser" to Mrs Wadds, an attractive 60-year-old divorcee whose chief role had been to arrange supper parties at which selected victims from Westminster could be browbeaten by Canadian diplomats on the constitutional issue.

Although a Conservative by background, Mrs Wadds was confirmed in her London post when Pierre Trudeau's Liberals regained power. When Trudeau was in London last summer she was a recipient of his legendary charm—in scant evidence

recently—and was apparently converted to his constitutional views.

Look in your 1981 diary, and I'll bet it says that British Summer Time begins this year on March 22. Well, it's wrong, as is every diary I have examined, with the honourable exception of the Oxford University Diary. All others were printed before the Government's decision late last year to bring our start of summer time in line with Europe. The Royal Observatory confirmed yesterday that the correct date is March 29, so do not adjust your clocks until then, unless you wish to be done out of that hour in bed a week too soon. There is no change in the end of BST; it remains at October 25.

### Party ties

The people's flag may be deepest red, but when opening the wardrobe to select the day's necktie the representatives of the people's party at Westminster have what can only be called a hesitant loyalty to the colour.

Roy Mason, Labour MP for Barnsley, who prides himself on being able to design neckwear for any occasion at the drop of

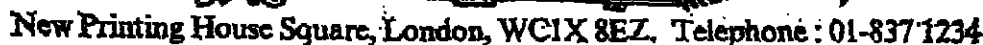
a tiepin, has produced one for the Parliamentary Labour Party, a modestly historic event when you recall that the founders of the PLP earlier this century had bowled out specially designed for them.

Mason has produced a limited selection of ties in green, maroon and blue. The green version is selling quite well, the blue has sold out, but there appears to be few takers for the maroon. Do I detect another subtle pointer towards centurism (blue being the colour most closely associated with Limehouse, at least among the jazz fraternity), or is it just because the sartorially-conscious Labour backbenchers from the polytechnics feel that a red tie would clash with their sombre suits?

I do not mind Nigel Dempster, the Daily Mail's stylish raker of inconsequential muck, writing mischievous stories about the misdeeds of newspapermen owned by Rupert Murdoch. But when he writes this newspaper in Latin of what it might expect under a new proprietor, Cavendish Temporum, he could at least try to get his grammar right: workers of The Times are plural. His piece, incidentally, was about factual errors.

Alan Hamilton





## IN DEFENCE OF WESTERN VALUES

## GRUBBING FOR VOTES

## Trade with Eastern Europe

What we should do is to try to understand something about the fundamental significance of East-West trade. It is wrong to say that the interdependence is low. According to one recent unchallenged commentary, no less than 25 per cent of West German trade is done with the Eastern block, much as the United States Republic-United States traffic.

It is most important to be clear that any interruption of East-West trade for political reasons would be taken very hard by the other side. Whilst we might envisage the interruption as being in the nature of a temporary sanction, it would be most likely that they would turn it into a prolonged rupture. It follows

It is most important to be clear that any interruption of East-West trade for political reasons would be taken very hard by the other side. Whilst we might envisage the interruption as being in the nature of a temporary sanction, it would be most likely that they would turn it into a prolonged rupture. It follows

ANTHONY STACPOOLE,  
24 Landridge Road, SW6.  
February 4.

overwhelming importance. First, they know when to accept defeat. The campaign against Callaghan, the defeat of Nealey and the humiliation of Foot are not to be forgotten. But the political factors which must be accepted to cherish the idea of repeating Gaitskell's comeback in 1961 while lacking any one of his assets—decisive union backing, a constituency campaign in his support and widespread popular esteem—its to live in cloud-cuckoo land. The fight on a different battleground is not.

Second, they do not want to live in a Britain programmed by the left; they want neither a siege

*From the Duke of Buccleuch and  
Queensberry*

Too often starry eyed conservationists have backed those promoting the fragmentation process, and too late do they realise the inevitable truth of the hackneyed adage about geese and golden eggs!

Yours faithfully,  
**BUCCLEUCH,**  
Bowhill,  
Selkirk,  
Scotland.  
February 6.

From Mr. D. C. Damant

Sir, In your leader, "The sooner the better", you state that the two old parties are widely seen as having failed. Does this mean that the people are turning their backs on the two old parties, and are looking for some as future attempt to solve the economic problems of the country without unpleasant side effects lasting more than a year or two? In which case it seems unlikely that we can ever escape from inefficiency and relative stagnation. Or are there only politicians such as Mr. Williams can persuade people to accept the right policies? In which case your leader might have considered what

## Civil liberties

Major archaeological underwater excavations already conform to the requirements of the proposed regulations, but the extension of these requirements to small groups of amateur divers working under the direction of professional diving archaeologists would impose severe strains on a naturally delicate relationship.

To operate an underwater expedition with dual safety standards, one for the professionals\* and one for the amateurs, would be unthinkable, but the nature of amateur archaeological exploration, with its limited funds and equipment usually available preclude the provision of the extensive "back-up" facilities demanded by the new regulations.

Members of this council to charity

From Mrs A. M. Stewart-Wallace  
Sir, A leader which invokes  
clarion call ("the sooner ever  
party breaks up the better") from  
a conservative and nervous  
of all fictitious characters, M.  
Woodhouse, to launch a new po-  
tical party and then proceed  
endeavouring to tell us that *The*  
*Times* has never agreed with an  
Prime Minister since Neville Cham-  
berlain, is a pure delight. *The*  
*Times* was a surprise.  
Yours, etc.  
**MARY STEWART-WALLACE.**  
*The Moor House,*  
*Clitching, Sussex.*

undermine public confidence in the

The amateur diving standards in the United Kingdom are acknowledged as among the highest in the world, and at present a handful of professional archaeologists are prepared to advise amateurs whilst diving to the safety standards of the amateur sports divers. This could be effectively prevented if the future of the proposed regulations becomes law.

Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET H. RULE, Secretary,  
R. E. SUTCLIFFE, Chairman,  
The Council for Nautical  
Archaeology,  
c/o Institute of Archaeology,  
3134 Gordon Square, WC1,  
February 6.

I may add that our courts can inquire into the validity not only of acts of government but also of acts of Parliament. They can examine and decide whether a law passed by Parliament is or is not in violation of the Constitution and, in particular, whether it encroaches on any of the fundamental human rights enshrined in the Constitution. This position will remain unchanged under the new Bill.

And if I am wrong, but as far as I am aware this is a power which the courts in Britain do not have. Does that make Malta less democratic than Britain or less a spearhead of the rule of law? Yours etc,

EDGAR MIZZEL,  
Assistant General's Office,  
The Palace,  
Valletta, Malta.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID GREEN,  
Rhyd yr Harding,  
Castle Morris,  
Haverfordwest.  
Dyfed.  
February 6.

### In vulgar parlance

Bird Wife ... *Alfred*  
 Bird ... Reverend in the Pocket  
 Dictionary read "Deserving rever-  
 ence by age, character or associa-  
 tions" ... especially as a prefix to  
 derogatory name ... Vulg: Rev  
 or the Rev Smith ... And on  
 page 8 today (February 7) there it  
 is in *ast* capitals: "The Reverend  
 Maturin and Mr Melmoth".  
 Should I be more annoyed at  
 Mr - Richard Holmes's constant  
 error in his article, or be overjoyed  
 that your leader referred to Mr  
 Paisley, a man certainly not deserv-  
 ing of reverence by age, character  
 or associations?  
 Yours faithfully,  
 DEREK RICHARDS.  
 The Rectory,  
 Barmouth.  
 Merioneth.



# Puddings that may require excuses

The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

If you are on a slimming diet read no further this week because the subject is puddings, fattening puddings, the kind of puddings many of us avoid most of the time. Dishing the garden is a good excuse for puddings like these. They are also fruity, filling, and easy.

Suet puddings of any description were always greeted with loud cries of "ah duff" when I was a child and I assumed it was one of those idiotic family traditions. However, the *Shorter Oxford Dictionary* knows all about duff being a flour pudding boiled in a bag. Cloths have given way to pudding basins now, thank goodness, and duff is the lighter for it.

Why Sussex pond pudding is attributed to that county is not clear. The pond is obvious as soon as you cut into the rich suet crust and find a whole lemon surrounded by buttery syrup which quickly makes a puddle if not exactly a pond. It is a fresh tasting pudding.

Serves four to six  
225g (8oz) self-raising flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
110g (4oz) shredded suet  
About 120 ml (4 fl oz) iced water  
110g (4oz) butter, diced

110g (4oz) Demerara sugar  
1 large lemon  
Sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Add the shredded suet and mix lightly with a fork to distribute it evenly. Make a well in the centre of the flour and add the water, a little at a time, to make a soft dough. You may not need all the water and a knife is the best instrument for the mixing. Knead the dough lightly on a floured surface until it is free of cracks and roll it out to a thickness of about 7mm (1/4 inch).

Cut a quarter segment from the dough and set it aside for the lid. Use the remaining dough to line a well buttered 900 ml (1 1/2 pints) pudding basin. Dampen the edges to be joined to make a seal.

Put half the diced butter in the bottom of the basin. Prick the lemon all over with a skewer and sit upright in the butter. Cover it with the sugar and remaining butter. Roll out the reserved dough for a lid. Dampen the edges and press it gently into place. Cover the basin with a layer of greaseproof paper and foil folded together with a 2.5 cm (1 inch) pleat and tied on tightly with string.

Stand the basin in a saucepan and pour in boiling water to come one third of the way up its sides. Cover the pan tightly and simmer the pudding for 3 1/2 hours. Top up the water level from time to time using boiling water and never allowing the water to go off the boil.

Rest the pudding for a moment or two before turning it on to a deep plate. Make sure each serving includes a slice of the lemon as well as a spoonful of syrup.

Serves four  
450 g (1 lb) cooking apples, peeled, cored and sliced  
85 g (3 oz) Demerara sugar  
1 teaspoon finely grated orange or lemon zest

55 g (2 oz) softened butter  
55 g (2 oz) caster sugar  
85 g (3 oz) self-raising flour  
1 large egg, beaten  
A little milk

Butter a pie or soufflé dish of approximately 1 litre (1 1/2 pints) capacity and arrange the apple slices in the bottom. Sprinkle with the Demerara sugar and orange or lemon zest.

In a bowl cream the butter until the mixture is pale and fluffy. Beat in alternate spoons of sifted flour and egg until all of both have been incorporated. Stir in enough milk to make a mixture which will just drop from a spoon.

Spread the sponge mixture over the fruit. Bake the pudding in a preheated moderately hot oven (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) for 35 to 45 minutes (depending on whether the dish is shallow or deep), or until the sponge is well risen and golden brown. Serve hot or warm with thin cream or top of the milk.

Compot creams  
Serves six to eight  
225 g (8 oz) dried fruit, apricots, peaches, pears and apples  
85 g (3 oz) Demerara sugar  
150 ml (1/2 pint) double cream  
150 ml (1/2 pint) soured cream  
1 teaspoon dried cinnamon  
Cover the fruit with cold water

and leave it to soak for several hours or overnight. Put the fruit and its soaking water in a pan with the sugar and bring to the boil. Cover and simmer the fruit until it is tender. Drain the cooked fruit and return the liquid to the pan. Reduce the syrup by fast boiling to about two tablespoons. Cut the fruit into 1 cm (1/2 inch) cubes and pour the reduced syrup over it. Chill well.

Whip the double cream until it holds soft peaks. Fold in the soured cream, fruit, syrup and cinnamon. Mix well and chill thoroughly before serving with unfilled brandy snaps.



As pants the hart for cooling streams when heated in the chase, so part I for the written word, literally and metaphorically. Since it may well be the second aspect of my malaise which will strike readers as the more bizarre, I suppose that I had best begin my confession at the end.

There is really very little need to explain the literal panting, since it refers to a condition I find to be rampant among bibliophiles. They can never find the book that they are looking for, and the more urgently they need to check that it really was Xenophon who said "get out of my sun", or what costume Gladys Cooper wore in *No, No, Nanette*, before the deadening haze of their heels the faster the io-and-exhalations.

There is a quite simple explanation why serious dedicated readers can never find the right book at the right moment (though always when they least require it) but I shall come onto that later, including the popping-up when unwanted bit, a great pant producer as you will see.

For the meantime I appear to be going to have to bare a lonely vice of mine so terrible that nobody else will admit to it, or has not yet done so in my presence.

I am addicted to the written word. Deprived of it I fidget, I twitch, I feel that my world is incomprehensible. I exhibit withdrawal symptoms, in short I find myself in dire straits. Rather, I should say I find myself in dire straits, since to be perfectly honest this fearful situation has only occurred once to my memory. That, however, was quite enough for me, oh yes indeed.

The strait of which I speak was situated, appropriately, in a watery country, in Finland. On a one night visit and after a congenial supper, it was not until I retired to bath and bed that I discovered that I had nothing, absolutely nothing, to read. Do not mistake me. I do not mean to imply that I had forgotten to roll my portable *The Decline and Fall* in my nightie, or that I was having to make do with a newspaper other than *The Times*. I am not a picky reader and, if any fellow sufferers from Metaphorical Prose Pant syndrome are emboldened by my revelations to come out of the closet, it will be found that so great is our compulsion that we will read anything.

Our voracity knows no bounds, although in my case it does not extend to actually eating literature, a practice which proved fatal to Emperor Menelik II of Ethiopia who, accustomed to swallow a few pages of the Bible when not feeling too robust, expired in 1913 after consuming the entire *Book of Kings*. Serves him right for being such a snob. He should have dieted on some gloomy old bore like Jeremiah.

Come to think of it, why was there not a Bible in my hotel room, indeed why are they now so rare to find? This is a work which has always seemed to me the ideal general reading matter, offering as it does up-lifting fact or sensational fiction, according to your view; blood, guts, incest, philosophy, poetry and all sorts of snippets which would be banned in any other context. Many of these ("rubbish") are for hotel room life since they cover

Prudence Glynn

## Panting for the written word and not a Bible in sight

almost any eventuality from destruction by fire to warning about painting your face and "tiring your hair and putting your head out of the window", a most unwise practice, if you are lodged near any of the main rail termini.

But in my Finnish room there was nothing save the fire regulations, and they were nailed to the back of the door, and when at six o'clock next morning I tottered to the window, I had to resign myself to an hour of trying to read the name of the shop opposite which was very long, very Finnish and parts of which were obscured erratically by storm-lashed trees. It was then that I knew I was hooked.

The literal panting is a habit shared by many, so now I can swim among friends again. Also it is far easier to describe. It follows that if you are a keen reader you are likely to have a lot of books around, and books are great believers in Parkinson's law; no matter how many bookcases you have, they are never enough. This problem, however, is as nothing to the complexities of arrangement of volumes upon those shelves. I am not of course talking about books for show purposes only (spiteful guests who suspect their hosts to be illiterate and to buy their books by the yard from their interior decorator, delight in lifting down an impressive volume of, say, Pliny, and ostentatiously blowing the dust off the top; even more fun is when the whole shelf comes away in your hand and reveals a cocktail cabinet).

Nor am I talking about coffee table books, whose very name dooms them to a life in a philistine lounge.

I am talking about books which belong to people who have bought them, or (well, scholars) can be vague borrowed them, quarried from them, and generally love them and use them, and care quite frantically about their exact location. You see it is virtually impossible to put together a library of a catholic and liberal nature which can be used by more than one person, because truly avid readers have individual reading patterns which defy neat labels comprehensible to others.

One of the symptoms of bibliomania is that one is always going to rearrange the books once and for all, so that everybody knows just where everything is. Another symptom is that one never ever gets done, despite moves of house ("all the paperbacks on the landing, darling") the arrival of the chimney sweep ("all the books in the drawing room will have to be put away, Madam") and redecoration of bits of wall which are actually supporting the books ("Just pile them on the floor, Stan, would you, then I can sort them out when I put them back.")

I will say any odds that they all go back just as they came out, a source of neat and well ordered joy to the neat and well ordered, and a source of hysterical searching to those whose logic is of a different metal.

I, for example, read on the cross-reference method, which means that I frequently have six books on the go at the same time because a phrase or a thought in one has roused off an idea supported by another. I also read in the bath, turn down page corners, and stick bits of paper with cryptic notes ("rubbish") scribbled on the top. These protrude, and even-

tually yellow and crumple and cause a lot of sighing and reproachful glances around the house.

Also, having a vivid visual memory, I can recall not only just where the book should be, but what colour it is and whereabouts on the page the bit I want comes. Once my non-system is upset I am lost, and what is much more a prey to that most self-indulgent vice, literary side-tracking. In search of *The Golden Bough* I once spent an entire day with *The Golden Notebook* my sole experience of the works of Miss Doris Lessing, I am glad to say.

In principle it all looks so simple. Paperbacks on the landing, hardback in size, colour, content or author. But it is not simple at all. What if you have half of a continuing saga, say, the Palliser novels, in hardback and half in paper? Are you to spend your life out there in the sure? Then all those traditional headings are so limiting. Poetry sounds all right, but what does one do about the appalling Burns who turns up everywhere without even the excuse of Queen Victoria and John Brown's tartan frocks which were yet to popularize Scotland. Then we run into history, biography, autobiography, gardening, self-improvement, dress, art, politics, best sellers and blockbusters. You have not forgotten about the categories of author and humour, have you?

May I suggest a totally new system of arrangement which will enable true readers to seize upon the very volume they need. My categories (I do not insist on gold leaf lettering on the mahogany) would start with masochism. Under this would be filed all books related to self-sufficiency, eating poisonous things out of the hedge, plays designed to be performed outdoors, outdoor cooking, gardening in any form. Then we have lies, in which you can feel a fair chunk of History. Biography. Autobiography with biography getting a cross reference under Toadies—you know, those ghastly snivelling books? Which you can feel the widow hovering over the writer's shoulder and suppressing all the naughty, ie interesting bits.

If you do not agree you could subsection it thus: Best Sellers and quasi-social blockbusters are invaluable and should be filed under Formula or Pot Boilers. All that is then necessary is to throw two or three up into the air, see where they fall open, and cobble them swiftly into your own quick money spinner.

I have books about self-improvement, which I file under Inferiority Complex Inducing. Why should some women be able to sail through the mumps, pause and hang on the pictures straight? These books also tend to have terribly silly titles, such as *Success without Tears*. What we want to know is how to be a dead failure without smudging the mascara.

The snag with Authors is that you can end up under Powell with Anthony next to Enoch, and when you are a reader who is captivated by useless information (always the best sort to have) you frequently cannot remember just who wrote it, his name being subservient to the thought.

As for Humour, we all know that there is only one shelf for that. It is marked Unintentional. Nor can Diaries pose a problem. You merely file them under Wishful Thinking, or Sneaks.

## Successful orders

Seven years after the Community Service Scheme was introduced experimentally in six areas of Britain, most of those closest to it remain as enthusiastic about its effectiveness and possibilities as they were at the beginning. It is now available as a sentence for imprisonment for anyone in court in the country; 78 per cent of orders are successfully completed; 75 per cent of them are carried out by individuals without the necessity of direct supervision, thousands of people who are not in a position to pay for help have benefited from community service and it is far from unknown for a sentenced man to say on his community work on a voluntary basis after the completion of his order. But still only three per cent of eligible defendants are sentenced to community service.

Why? The second interesting question only exacerbates the first. Why has community service always enjoyed such a favourable press and public reaction? If people like the idea of offenders against society being compelled to repay their debts in a practical way and if the positive characteristics of this kind of sentence appear so obvious why is it not more frequently recommended by probation officers in their social inquiry reports and why do magistrates not use it more readily?

Part of the answer lies in the confusion which persists as to when it should be used. Section 14 of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act, 1973 (which introduced the Community Service Order for imprisonment offences committed by persons over 17, of 40-240 hours of unpaid work to be performed in the community within 12 months) is ambiguous about whether it is to be regarded as only appropriate where a defendant would go into custody if community service were not available or as a separate sentence in its own right.

Different commentators have taken opposing views but the facts are that magistrates generally seem to regard it as a sentence to be used even where a defendant would not be going immediately to prison. They would confine it to custody cases. In support of their view, the magistrates, who, at their annual meeting last October passed, with a substantial majority, a resolution calling for community service to be used as a sentence in its own right, can quote the provisions of the Act for a breach of a CSO which do not say that persistent or serious breach results in immediate imprisonment (as with a suspended sentence) but allow the offender to be treated in any way near his court at the time he received his CSO.

Probation officers, on the other hand, are inclined to say that the spirit of the legislation and the debate which surrounded it. On the whole they dislike ambiguity.

Though nobody would claim that community service is the perfect sentence, there is now sufficient evidence that it generally works well and can occasionally be a huge success to have given both magistrates and probation officers the confidence to put their faith in it more often.

In fact, community service has all kinds of advantages over prison. To put the most measurable and, perhaps, politically persuasive first, it costs a mere £420 per person per annum against prison's £7,800. And it is not altogether a "soft option". Defendants may see it as this when they first give their consent to being sentenced to it. But after sacrifice every Saturday for a year they may begin to wish they could have done two or three months "time" and got it over with.

It may not be "soft" but it is certainly a more positive disposal than custody. For a start, it avoids all the problems which an "accident" has to face when he leaves prison and

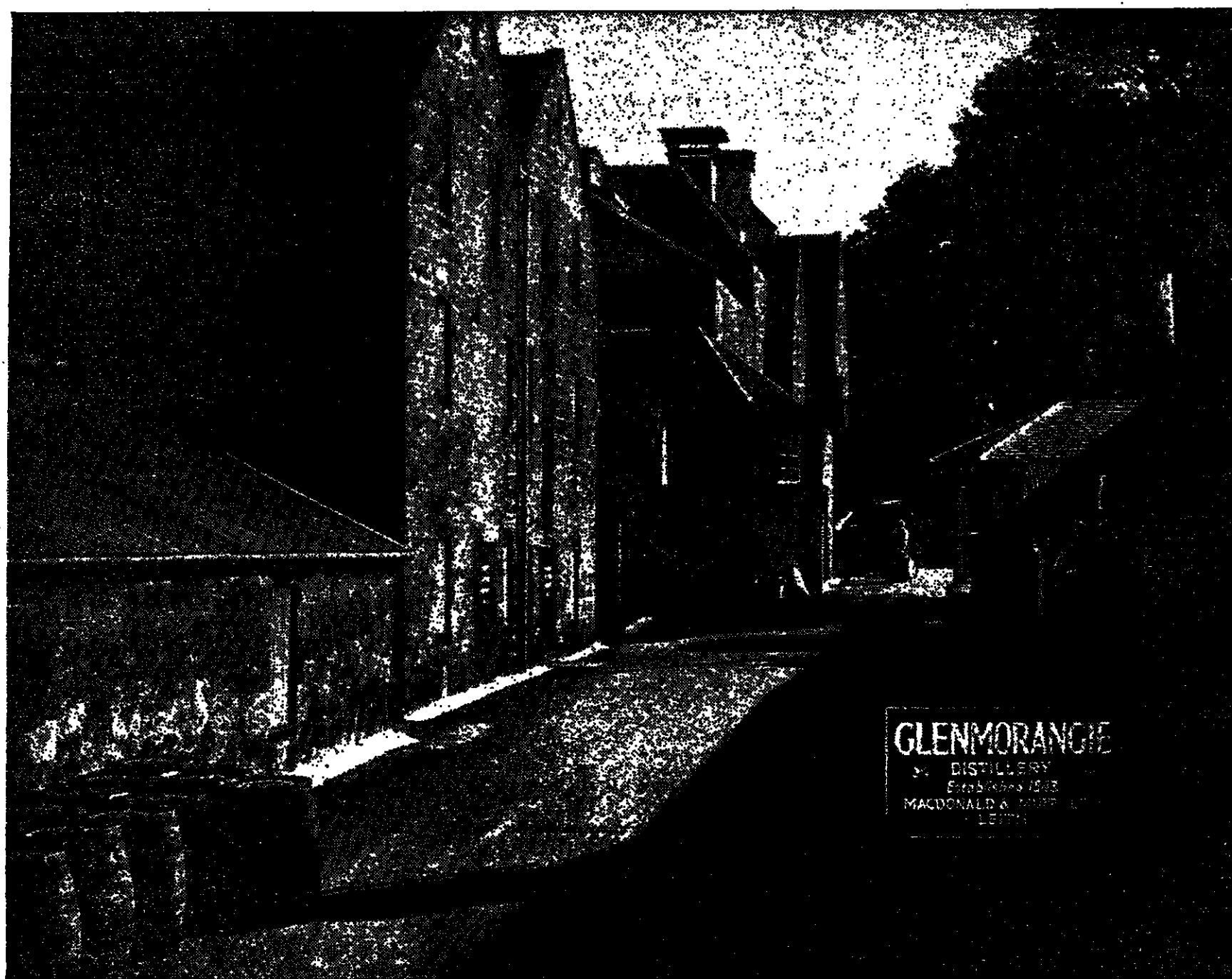
which can result in his offending again within a short period of time. Community service allows him to pursue his normal life with his family and with his job if he has one. It allows him an area of self-determination and requires of him a degree of commitment and responsibility from which if he is so motivated he can get some useful experience.

The average community service order is for 150 hours of unpaid work, either alongside people being paid or as part of a group of volunteers in, for instance, old people's homes or day centres, playgrounds or adventure playgrounds.

Over 50 per cent of CSOs are made for dishonesty; only just over 10 per cent for crimes of violence. The balance is almost entirely accounted for by motoring offences, mainly taking and driving away an unlicensed car. Over a third of people on community service have five or more previous convictions and 75 per cent are in the age range 17-24, though Moira Scott, who for two years was deputy community service organizer for North-west inner London, tells of one man of 71 with a long list of previous convictions who was very successfully placed to work in pre-school nursery where he became "Grandad" to the kids and where he stayed on as volunteer when his order had been completed.

Naturally, community service does not always work out. But only 22 per cent of orders are not completed. Over a third are failures to show up, running away and this is a record which compares very well with probation. Community service is a punishment, it is retribution and it can rehabilitate and, as Moira Scott says, "Prison can be permanently damaging and disturbing experience and this does no good to society as a whole. As far as I know, nobody was ever damaged by community service."

Jane Moonma



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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

**LAING**  
make ideas take shape

The road to closure at Linwood, page 21

**Stock markets**  
FT Ind 496.1 up 0.5  
FT Gilt 69.10 up 0.1

**Sterling**  
\$2.375 up 1 point  
Index 104.2 unchanged

**Dollar**  
Index 99.4 unchanged  
DM 2.1477 down 30 pts

**Gold**  
\$500.39 down 514

**Money**  
3-month sterling 17.13  
3-month Euro 5.17-17.1  
6-month Euro 5.17-17.1

### IN BRIEF

## Bank union opposes windfall tax

The Banking Insurance and Finance Union (BIFU) yesterday added its weight to the criticism of the proposed windfall tax on bank profits. A union executive meeting confirmed rejection of an S.50 cent pay offer from the banks and decided to consult members about possible industrial action in pursuit of a higher award.

The executive passed a resolution condemning proposals for windfall tax. It was unfair, it said, to impose an additional tax burden on banks merely when they appeared to be profitable. The tax issue is linked, in the minds of the union leaders, with their talks. They see the windfall tax as providing an additional incentive to the clearing banks to stand firm on their single-figure pay offer.



Mr Deryk Vander Weyer, President of the Institute of Bankers and vice chairman of Barclays Bank, who yesterday rejected proposals for a special tax on clearing banks profits, speaking in Birmingham he said there was no logic in the tax. "Profits are new on a relatively declining trend and are barely providing for our capital needs," he said.

**Treasury stock**  
The Government's latest 1,000m offering of gilt edged stock received only a lukewarm response from investors yesterday. Applications for the treasury 12 per cent 1986 stock were thought to have been relatively modest. All applications were allotted in full at the minimum tender price of 96 per cent.

**Changes 'unnecessary'**  
Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, told the House of Commons yesterday that the new regulations for company accounts last night were not necessary and that the changes were not urgent. A very recent proposal to regulate the accounts of companies is an example of this, he said.

**Woolworth pay deal**  
Woolworth has agreed pay rises of up to 6.80 a week for 11 grades of its retail staff, after negotiations with the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers.

**Saudi devaluation**  
The Saudi Arabian riyal has been devalued to 3.34 to the dollar from 3.33.

**Wall St lower**  
The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 942.49, down 1.14 on Wall Street yesterday. The \$=SDR exchange rate was 1.23623 while the £=SDR rate was 0.529435.

## State loses £3,500 a year in tax and benefits for every worker without a job

By Frances Williams  
Unemployment costs the Government nearly £3,500 a year lost tax revenues and extra social security benefits for every worker put out of a job.

A rise of 100,000 in the number of people out of work adds £340m a year to government borrowing, official estimates show.

This suggests that the 900,000 rise in unemployment over the past 12 months could be costing the Exchequer nearly £3,500m—equivalent to more than half the £4,000m of £25,000m overshoot on the public sector borrowing requirement expected this year.

These costs, published yesterday in the Treasury's latest *Economic Progress Report*, take into account lost tax and national insurance contributions, additional social security benefits and the extra administrative expenses of dealing with larger numbers of unemployed. But they do not include other costs such as the state Redundancy Fund payments (£242m in 1980), loss of indirect taxes because of reduced purchasing power, or the expansion of special employment schemes (costing £850m in 1980).

The total direct and indirect cost to the government of higher unemployment is likely to be substantially greater than

### DIRECT COSTS TO EXCHEQUER OF AN INCREASE OF 100,000 REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT (EXCLUDING SCHOOL-LEAVERS) IN 1980-81

	£m
<b>Current receipts</b>	
Income tax	115
National insurance contributions	75
National insurance surcharge	15
Total current receipts	205
<b>Current expenditure</b>	
National insurance benefits (including earnings related supplement)	65
Other social security benefits	55
Rent and rate rebates	5
Administrative costs	135
Total current expenditure	340
Exchequer cost (at 1980-81 output prices)	135

The Treasury figure—perhaps as much as £500m for every 100,000 joining the unemployment register—equivalent to £3,500 for each worker.

The Treasury estimates that, of the £340m cost resulting from an extra 100,000 unemployed, lost tax revenues account for £205m (60 per cent) and additional social security benefits and administrative costs for £135m (40 per cent).

Last November the Treasury put the cost to the Exchequer of an unemployed married man with two children on average earnings of £5,000 and the cost of an unemployed single man at £5,250 a year.

The lower figure of £3,500 suggested from yesterday's figures reflects the fact that the

unemployment total includes unskilled and women workers who may earn less or be entitled to claim less in benefits, and who thus cost the Government less if they lose their jobs.

Another article in *Economic Progress Report* estimates that output in 1980-81 will turn out to be 4 per cent lower than in the previous year, twice the drop expected at the time of the last Budget.

This lost output will have added between £2,000m and £4,000m to public sector borrowing in the year. The expected extra fall accounts for about half the total, in line with the Chancellor's £1,500m estimate in his mini-budget on November 24.

## Employment department £233m overspent

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter  
The Government has overspent this year by £233m on employment and related schemes, primarily because the Department of Employment underestimated the level of unemployment by 900,000.

This was revealed to a Commons Committee last night by department officials, who were answering MPs' question on requests for supplementary estimates. MPs doubted the department's ability to forecast accurately future levels of unemployment.

The main item of overspending was in the Temporary Short time Working Compensation scheme, which encourages employers to adopt short time working rather than redundancies. The scheme's original budget of £39.9m was overspent by just over £200m.

The committee heard that the estimates for the short time working scheme were drawn up in the autumn of 1979, were based on a projected average unemployment level for 1980-81 of 1.6 million compared with the present level of almost 2.5 million.

Mr John Gort (Barnet, Hendon North, C), pointed out that the department still appeared to be working on the basis of the 1979-80 figures. The committee's projection for unemployment in the next 12 months of 2.3 million, which had already been exceeded.

The committee also heard that the department's estimate of the cost of the scheme was based on a projected average unemployment level for 1980-81 of 1.6 million compared with the present level of almost 2.5 million.

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The Commons Select Committee on Employment was also told by Mr Geoffrey Holland, director of special programmes at the Manpower Services Commission, that at least 290,000 new school leavers are expected to be jobless by this autumn.

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He wanted assurances that similar errors would not take place in the future.

A paper from the department said that the only previous experience of such a scheme was in the textile, clothing and footwear industries. Forecasting was "extremely difficult", and in the first year, 1979/80, the projected expenditure was £33.5m compared with the eventual output of £23.5m.

When this year's estimates were drawn up, the pattern of short time working in previous recessions was taken into account, but the forecast still had to be "somewhat rough and ready".

Overriding in other areas included £18.8m on the National Coal Labour Scheme, £9.4m for pneumoconiosis payments and £4m on the Small Firms Employment Subsidy.

Community service, page 20

those who split commission on deals with their own firm. They will not join CCM in that capacity. Mr Andrew Hugh Smith, Capel's senior partner, said: "That's just not our style."

Mr Nead, Mr Kenneth Levy and Mr Geoffrey Menger, from Bendon will join Capel's partnership. Mr Raymond Field, Mr Sidney Levy, Mr Anthony Klaur, Mr Richard King and Mr Martin Levy will become associate members of Capel.

Mr Ronald Cohen and Mr Harold Alvarez will be taken on in a consultative capacity which, by agreement, is unlikely to be for more than a year.

Mr Clément Picot, Bendon's former senior partner, will retire and Mr Peter Maxwell intends to emigrate to Australia.

Mr Nead said: "I don't think it matters who approached who. There have been a number of changes in stockbroking in the 1970s and we think there will be more in the 1980s. You either have to get larger or smaller, its going to be difficult to survive. The media sized firm to offer the services that one is going to have to."

Financial Editor, page 21

Mr Richard Nead, Bendon's senior dealing partner, said: "We don't know how many people will be joining Capel's at the moment. But the redundancy bill will be minimal as we expect the majority of the staff to go over with us."

Bendon employ a number of half-commission salesman —

## Sugarbeet factories 'might have to close'

By Hugh Clayton  
Agricultural Correspondent

A warning that some of the 12 British sugarbeet factories might have to close was given yesterday by Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Mr Walker interrupted a meeting of EEC fisheries ministers in Brussels to return to London for a meeting with 12 Conservative and Labour MPs with constituencies in north-west England about the threatened closure of the Tate & Lyle cane refinery in Liverpool.

Mr Walker then had a brief meeting with Sir Gerald Thorley, chairman of the British Sugar Corporation, and Mr John Beckett, chief executive.

Mr Walker would not comment directly about the chances of keeping the Liverpool refinery open and of preserving more than 1,000 jobs there. "I have discussed with both companies if they will investigate what they can do as far as exports are concerned," he said. "It is not a question of the quotas for sugarbeet, but of the declining consumption of sugar in this country."

He wants Tate & Lyle, which refines all cane entering Britain, and the British Sugar Corporation, which processes all home-grown beet, to consider a joint venture to export refined cane and beet sugar for which there is no market in Britain.

Mr Walker said the programme of expanding domestic sugar production adopted by the Labour Government in the mid-1970s was no longer valid because of falling consumption. He had, therefore, offered to cut the EEC beet quota for Britain by 200,000 tonnes to 1.15 million tonnes if other countries accepted similar cuts.

His forecast on what sugar consumption would be was "not a party point."

British consumption of sugar has dropped from 2.7 million tonnes to 2.3 million tonnes in the past five years, while production of glucose and isoglucose has increased.

British supplies consist of about 180,000 tonnes of cane, 180,000 tonnes of refined EEC beet, mostly from Denmark, and 1.1 million tonnes from beet grown in England and refined by the corporation.

Sir Gerald and Mr Beckett would not comment on the offer of a bid to control London Sumatra, whose shares jumped 35p to 378p.

It is understood that the minority holders in London Sumatra, which include RIT, McLeod-Russell, another plantation company, and Sipef, a Belgian company with plantation interests, approached Harrison's with an offer of sale.

Three years ago these companies filed a bid to control London Sumatra. Harrison's has since raised its stake, and yesterday said it would offer terms "closely related to the current price" of London Sumatra for the outstanding equity.

London Sumatra is a plantation company, with pretax profits of £17.9m from assets of £17.5m. Its main interests are rubber, palm oil and cocoa. The company was formed from 16 other companies in 1968. London Sumatra was denationalized by the Indonesian Government on the understanding that it invested heavily in new acreage. More than £20m has been spent, with the result that London Sumatra has some 27,000 acres of immature trees.

These trees should start bearing soon, as they mature, and that is the price for which Harrison's is offering the company. The price for which RIT have been contending, The board of London Sumatra put the asset value at 270p a share. City analysts calculate that London Sumatra's assets are now worth between 450p and 55 p a share.

The announcement that the minority shareholders were pulling out also raised questions about the sale, could be in the specialized area of plantation investment.

It is suggested that RIT, which will realize a big capital gain on the sale, could be interested in Warren Plantations.

Financial Editor, page 21

Mr Parry, whose constituency includes the Tate & Lyle refinery said it would be unfair to expect cane refinery workers to accept more job losses.

More than 1,000 jobs had been lost in the industry in the Tate & Lyle closure programme over the past four years and Mr Parry said the industry was now facing an exceptionally high unemployment rate.

If beet factories closed they would affect country towns with relatively low rates of unemployment. Mr James Dunn, Labour MP for Liverpool, Kirkdale, said he thought Mr Walker would not make concessions. "He probably cannot. What Tate & Lyle does is to transfer capacity from Liverpool to London," he added.

Mr Slater, on his way back to the quoted company sector.

## Government offers British Steel £1,500m of emergency borrowing

By Peter Hill  
Industrial Editor

New emergency borrowing facilities for the British Steel Corporation, increasing the ceiling of £3,500m by £1,500m have been introduced by the Government.

The move reflects the continuing cash haemorrhage at BSC, which is losing close on £2m a day, and the need for it to secure further borrowing before the end of the present financial year in six weeks time.

Yesterday's announcement by Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, provided a further dramatic illustration of the parlous state of the Corporation's finances. British Steel is already pressing close against the present ceiling and would have exceeded it within the next three weeks. The new borrowing powers Bill is seen as a prudent interim precautionary measure.

Initially the Bill will provide for the existing ceiling to be lifted by £500m to £4,000m and Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary will have power to lift it still further to £7,000m by order.

Originally the Government had hoped that it would be able to make its long-awaited statement this week on the survival plan for BSC submitted by Mr Ian MacGregor, the corporation chairman. The plan will involve the provision of at least £750m from the taxpayer for the coming financial year, as well as writing off a large

amount of the £3,500m of public dividend capital.

Although the Cabinet has approved the survival plan in principle, there are several major aspects which have still to be resolved.

Progress has been slow in negotiations between the BSC and a number of private sector steelmakers on rationalizing areas of overlap by forming joint venture companies.

The Government is also faced with growing pressure from the private steelmakers, from its own backbenchers and from other EEC states to control the level of funds committed to BSC. This year British Steel has received almost £1,000m of government funds—more than double the original external financing limit—that will certainly be boosted further before the end of the financial year.

There has been growing criticism from private sector steelmakers of the aggressive marketing tactics being deployed by BSC in a desperate attempt to boost sales and plant loading levels through pricecutting and heavy discounting.

The frustration of the private sector was reflected in a petition by a delegation of workers from the Duport company's plant in Wales delivered to 10 Downing Street yesterday, calling for a halt to unfair competition from the corporation.

Among Tory backbenchers, similar fears are being expressed. Mr Michael Goylls,

MP, chairman of the party's industry committee said last night: "There is a very strong feeling that firm and very watertight guarantees must be given by the Government that extra funds for the BSC must not be used as an operating subsidy. We will seek amendments if necessary, if assurances are not forthcoming."

Replying to questions after his statement on the new borrowing powers yesterday in the Commons, Mr Tebbit sought to allay those fears. "It is our intention that the BSC should not use funds to destroy the British independent sector of the industry," he said.

Ministers recognize that the provision of further substantial funds for British Steel is likely to provide a source of controversy within the EEC. The West German Government yesterday made it clear that, in forthcoming talks in Brussels, it would be seeking to persuade the EEC to invoke existing legal instruments to dismantle the panoply of state subsidies for steel throughout the Community.

Meanwhile, the Corporation continues to push ahead with its sales drive, claiming that new orders from its steel mill operations were running at their highest levels for nearly eight years. Over the next six weeks, more than 180,000 tonnes of strip steel is scheduled to be shipped to Germany and other EEC countries, with other shipments destined for the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

## Harrisons poised for plantations takeover

By Peter Wilson-Smith  
The Lancashire textile machinery and engineering group, is selling its marine propeller business for an undisclosed sum. This is the latest of a number of disposals to cut the group's overdraft after it was rescued by its bankers last April.

Last November the group sold its profitable pump division for £11.5m to Indian Head, an American company. This together with other smaller sales reduced borrowings by £14m.

Mr Robin Tavenor, chief executive, said: "We do not plan to make any more major disposals or closures."

Besides selling the marine business, Stone-Platt is rationalizing other activities in the marine and mechanical division, which include a number of foundry companies. Mr Tavenor said the marine business was not making sufficient return on capital and the sale would not have much impact on group profits because of interest savings on the cash released.

The propeller business is being sold in two parts with the controllable-pitch side going to Vickers. Vickers' investments, controlled by Mr John Langham until recently chair-

## Stone-Platt sells its propeller business

man of Stone-Platt's marine and mechanical division, is buying the fixed-pitch propeller business.

The prices paid will be related to net asset values at end-1979. Mr Tavenor said the book value of the assets being sold or disposed of was about £6m. However, he said there would probably be a small writedown on the sale. Although the deals have nearly been finalized they are still subject to contract, which is why the price has not been disclosed.

The foundry operations in the marine and mechanical division will mostly be merged with Stone-Platt's electrical division although the reorganization may involve a small closure and some redundancies. The marine and mechanical division had total sales of £41m in 1979 and a loss (pre-interest) of £100,000.

The latest measures will leave Stone-Platt free to concentrate on its traditional textile machinery business and its electrical division.

The group's major problems have been in its textile machinery operations in the United Kingdom. In 1979 the group tumbled from pre-tax profits of £9.5m to losses of £2.9m. In the first half of 1980 it lost £2.5m but forecast a profit in the second half. Yesterday the shares firmed 11p to 251p.

Financial Editor, page 21

Profits up a third in 1980

The National Bank of Dubai announce a 33.6% increase in profits after providing for doubtful debts and a transfer to inner reserves.

Profits	1980	1979
U.A.E. Dirhams	80.3 Million	60.1 Million
	(£9.4 Million)	(£7.0 Million)

In November 1980 the Bank capitalised part of its inner reserves by the issue of one fully paid bonus share for each share held. A dividend of 20% is now proposed on the increased share capital.

After the capitalisation of inner reserves and the proposed dividend payment published shareholders funds have been increased by 81%.

Shareholders Funds	1980	1979
U.A.E. Dirhams	361.0 Million	199.4 Million
	(£42.1 Million)	(£23.3 Million)

\*U.A.E. Dirhams 8.57

The National Bank of Dubai Ltd.,  
Incorporated in 1963 by Charter of H.H. The Ruler.  
P.O. Box 777, Dubai, U.A.E.  
Telephone: 221941 Telex: 45421

## Ulster property group acquires Strongmead in reverse takeover Slater story opens a new chapter in the City

Mr James Slater, the financier and latter day writer of children's books, took a further step yesterday towards an eventual return to the quoted company sector.

His private property company, Strongmead, set up with the help of Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland of Lohrro after the Slater Walker collapse, is to be acquired by Laganvale Estate, the Northern Ireland-based property group in which Strongmead has a 14 per cent stake.

The deal, which is in effect a reverse takeover, entails Strongmead placing one million of its 1.46 million Laganvale shares at 30p each with its shareholders. The balance of the shares will go to Strongmead's associates.

After this transaction Strongmead's net assets will be worth £1.4m, of which half will be in cash or near cash and the remainder will be invested in a good residential property.

The plan is that Laganvale will then acquire Strongmead on a net assets basis by April 30, after Strongmead's net worth has been certified by Laganvale's reporting accountants.

Laganvale will be issuing not more than 4.6 million shares to meet the business, a total consideration of £1.4m which in turn will take Strongmead and its associates with around 40 per cent holding. As this is

well beyond the Takeover Panel's trigger point of 30 per cent for a full bid, permission is being sought to waive Rule 34. The Panel yesterday confirmed that in these circumstances permission would be no problem.

According to Laganvale's announcement, the deal which has been rumoured for some time in the City will help to reduce its potential borrowings from the £1.4m they would have reached after Laganvale's recent purchase of a Brighton property,

Mr Slater, on his way back to the quoted company sector.

Mr Slater first emerged as a shareholder in Laganvale, a previously obscure company, involved in "flat break-up" operation in the early 1970s, last year when he disclosed that he held 12.5 per cent after months of rumours about his involvement. After a rights issue to finance the Brighton purchase, Mr Slater's holding with Strongmead was up to 13.3 per cent. But he did not receive a dividend from his investment.

Laganvale's pretax profits in the first half were £38,000, compared with the previous year's losses of £12,250. Although the forecast was for still higher profits in the second half, there was no dividend and there will be no full payment either.

Rosemary Unsworth

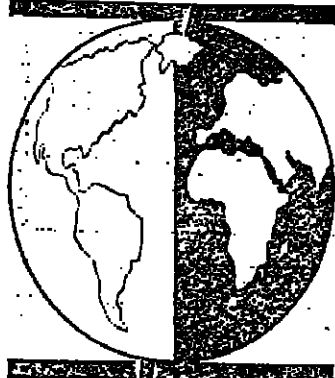
### PRICE CHANGES

<b>Rises</b>					
Arco's	10p to 363p	Killinghall	10p to 150p	Bank	buys
Barclays	7p to 495p	Phillips Lamps	5p to 325p	Bank	sells
Barclays Life	7p to 52p	Midland	5p to 333p	Norway Kr	13.15
Bank of China	2.87	Nesco	5p to 140p	Portugal Esc	12.50
Bank of India	35p to 378p	Waddington J.	8p to 92p	Spain Pta	2.20
				Sweden Kr	11.19
				Switzerland Fr	4.72
				USA \$	2.39
				Yugoslavia Dnr	88.00
					82.50
<b>Falls</b>					
Anglo Am Corp	15p to 584p	Kinross	35p to 541p	Bank	buys
Anglo Lithium	15p to 272p	Midland Wils	35p to 680p	Bank	sells
Anglo Sulfur	15p to 378p	Massey Ferguson	15p to 200p	Norway Kr	13.15
Cong Gold Fields	13p to 423p	Minarco	13p to 620p	Portugal Esc	12.50
Crouch Grp	13p to 140p	UC Investments	64p to 417p	Spain Pta	2.20

### THE POUND

	Bank	buys	Bank	sells
Australia \$	2.06	1.98	Norway Kr	13.15
Austria Sch	37.20	35.90	Portugal Esc	12.50
Belgium Fr	83.75	79.75	Spain Pta	2.20
Canada \$	5.21	4.97	Sweden Kr	11.19
Denmark Kr	16.00	15.20	Switzerland Fr	4.72
Finland Mk	9.88	9.38	USA \$	2.39
France Fr	11.90	11.40	Yugoslavia Dnr	88.00
Germany DM	5.21	5.05		82.50
Hong Kong \$	11.00	10.70		
India Rupee	12.70	12.10		
Ireland £	1.39	1.33		
Italy Lir	2505.00	2395.00		
Japan Yen	360	350		
Netherlands Gld	5.63	5.37		





## Iran shuns American bank loans

Iran will produce and export enough oil this year to avoid borrowing on international money markets, Mr Ali Reza Nobari, the Iranian central bank governor, said yesterday.

Mr Nobari, in London for talks with American bankers about financial claims outstanding since the Tehran-Washington agreement that freed the 52 American hostages last month, put no figure on Iran's oil production targets.

Because of Iran's war with Iraq, the country's oil output is thought by Tehran diplomats to be 700,000 barrels a day compared to a possible 2 million barrels should the conflict end.

Mr Nobari said that Iran's oil output would obviate any recourse to world money markets and added: "If we do borrow, it won't be through United States banks."

## Foreign deposits recall

China's government has given Chinese companies and organizations until the end of February to bring home unauthorized foreign currency deposits abroad or face confiscation of the funds.

## Austrian economy

The Austrian economy is expected to level off this year after a rapid expansion during the previous two years according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). But Austria's inflation and unemployment rates are still likely to remain among the OECD's lowest.

## Gold output up

Chinese gold production rose 14.3 per cent to a record level last year, the official New China News Agency reports.

## Dutch spending plan

The Dutch Government is planning a sharp reduction in public sector spending growth from 1981 to 1985, because of lower than expected economic growth.

## Japanese imports

Herr Otto Lambsdorff (above), West Germany's economics minister, has said he intends to use every opportunity to oppose growing pressure from European trade unions and industry for restrictions on Japanese imports. He said the Japanese challenge "provides a chance for us to make an effort to improve our competitiveness".

## \$14.6m bus plant

Hino Motors, one of Japan's largest heavy-duty truck makers, will build a \$14.6m (about £6.2m) bus assembly plant in New York State within a few years, the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* reported. Agreement has also been reached to deliver several hundred buses to New York City by the end of the year.

## Belgian pay talks

Belgium's Employer's Federation has agreed to meet union and government representatives for talks on a voluntary wage limitation agreement in the absence of which a mandatory ban would be imposed by the government.

## German turnover slips

West German wholesale trade turnover fell a real 2 per cent in 1980 although the nominal total rose by about 6 per cent to DM 630,000m (£127,270m). Retail sales volume was unchanged in December over December, 1979.

## Italian railway funds

The Italian state railway is to offer a \$300m (£15.5m) syndicated loan and floating rate note issue on the Euro-dollar market managed by Societe S. G. Warburg, according to the transport ministry.

## Finland oil price rise

Finland will pay about \$38.5 a barrel for Soviet crude oil after a rise of about \$4 was agreed in Moscow. Finland is to import some 7 million tonnes of Soviet crude this year under a bilateral trade agreement.

## Malaysian aid cutback

Britain is to reduce its technical assistance to Malaysia from next year. Sir Donald Hawley, the outgoing British High Commissioner, said in Kuala Lumpur. The Government had taken the decision because Malaysia was near to becoming a "developed country".

# Enthusiasts on two wheels are driving themselves out of business

## Motorcycle boom bypasses dealers

While Britain has been enjoying an upsurge of interest in motorcycling in the past few years, the country's 2,500 motorcycle dealers apparently have shown a remarkable inability to capitalize on the boom. Sales are soaring, but profits have tumbled and there is now a danger that many dealers will be forced out of business.

A new report by ICC Business Ratios, published today concludes that for most dealers the past three years has been "an unending picture of falling profitability, increased stocks, declining return on capital and generally poor asset utilization".

The trouble, it seems, is that most dealers, like their customers, are enthusiasts rather than "hard-nosed" businessmen. Motorcycle salesmen must stop regarding their activity as a hobby, says the report, "and must take a serious look at the way their business is run. Dealers have managed to survive on water-tight margins by astute financial planning and clever marketing".

Last year was the best for motorcycle sales in Britain since 1959 and there are now an estimated 1.4 million two-wheelers on the roads, an increase of 11 per cent since 1976. According to the report, the 50 leading high street sales companies increased turnover by 22 per cent in 1978 and 17 per cent in 1979, and one achieved

annual sales approaching £3m. But few, says the report, have been able to "make a silk purse out of a sow's ear". It adds: "Indeed, if the performance of the country's top motorcycle-outlets is any indication of trading patterns in the future, then over the next year or so a significant number of firms could find they are driving themselves out of business unless they take some swift action now to correct an already well established pattern of financial trends."

In the past two or three years, many companies' profit margins have been halved. Only one, it is said, now has a margin in double figures and about 12 are operating on negative margins. In the three years to October, 1979, the average profitability of the 60 leading firms in the survey fell from 18.8 per cent to 8.5 per cent, while total sales rose by 44 per cent.

The signs of declining profitability were apparent in 1977 and 1978, ICC says, but few companies took corrective action. "It remains to be seen if firms have taken advantage of the upturn in sales to put their houses in order: it would be reasonable to expect, at least on their past performance, that they have not and are prepared to live with margins as low as 1 per cent."

The report lays emphasis on the rapid growth in dealers' stocks and debtors compared to sales. The average stock

turnover figure fell from 4.7 to 4.1 times per year while the average debt collection period nearly doubled from 15 to 29 days. With interest rates so high these are crucial areas of management control and together they go a long way to explaining the industry's declining performance."

One result has been a drop in the number of sales outlets. Last October there were an estimated 2,402 United Kingdom dealers, many of them one-man concerns or corner shops, compared with about 3,000 in the past. The small operators, says the report, "are probably content to exist with modest living since their enthusiasm for motorcycles and motorcycling often outweighs their enthusiasm for making money".

Most of the industry's business now is concerned with the sale of new and second-hand imported machines after the invasion of the United Kingdom market by the Japanese. The decline of the British manufacturing industry, says the report, is "as legendary as the dissolution of the monasteries", and as a result most dealers are in the hands of overseas suppliers "with all the implications this can have for the high street trader".

*Motor Cycle Dealers (2nd Edition) ICC Business Ratios, 81 City Road, London, E80.*

Edward Townsend



Mr Walter Goldsmith, left, director general of the Institute of Directors, presents The Times Grand Prix award in London yesterday to Mr Anthony Hill, a director of Unilever, watched by Mr Alan Watson and Mr Robin Morton, of Charles Barker CBC, Unilever's advertising agency which shares in the award. The companies won the Grand Prix for the best advertisements of company results in 1980.

## Inmos to launch latest microchip design

By Bill Johnston

Inmos, the microchip company whose majority shareholding is held by the National Enterprise Board (NEB) is to make its latest product debut next Wednesday in New York.

The British company, backed by a government investment

of £50m, will unveil details of its latest product to several thousand delegates from dozens of countries involved in microelectronics at the International Solid State Conference.

The new design is called a 64K dynamic RAM, a chip with over 64,000 memory cells for

use in computers. It has the added advantage of having cells which can be made to replace others that become inoperative. The new chip is an important development for Inmos. The company's projections for all its products suggest sales of £150m in 1984, growing to £200m a year later.

## New Saudi five-year plan could favour UK exports

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

Saudi Arabia's just launched third five-year plan, worth about £100,000m, is because of its emphasis on industrialization of the country, likely to favour British efforts to export compared with earlier plans with a stress on infrastructure construction. Low labour cost countries such as South Korea have mopped up many important construction contracts.

This was one of the key points which emerged from a seminar on Saudi Arabia's new plan organized by the Confederation of British Industry in London yesterday and attended by about 400 leading businessmen.

They heard a warning from Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of Trade, that because the trend in Saudi Arabia was towards local manufacture to stay in the market British companies would have to be more willing to enter joint manufacturing ventures.

Anybody who saw the country solely as a market for direct trade could eventually lose business to competitors more willing to involve themselves in Saudi Arabia's industrial ambitions, Mr Parkinson said.

The thrust towards joint ventures was underlined by Dr Faisal Al Bashir, Saudi Arabia's deputy minister of planning, who said that British companies would have to be prepared to share technology and managerial and technical skills. There would be more help for the private sector in Saudi Arabia, including the provision of long-term interest-free loans, he said.

A study of the plan by the Committee for Middle East Trade (Comet), showed that imports should continue to grow during the period by a real annual rate of 7 per cent, which though slower than in the previous plan was at a faster rate than had been expected. What could benefit British exporters was more emphasis on productive industries such as manufacturing and mining and agriculture.

One additional source of stimulus for increasing local ownership of businesses and funding investment in the production sector could be development of a stock exchange, now under consideration by the Saudi Arabian Government.

The Third Saudi Arabian Development Plan, 1980-85: Committee for Middle East Trade, £5.

## Society offers homes aid

By Sylvia Morris

The one million members of the Provident Building Society have something to turn for advice if or when they are made redundant. The society, the ninth largest in the country, yesterday announced a series of measures to help the unemployed.

As part of the package, managers at the 200 branches throughout the country will advise those facing unemployment on what to do about their mortgages.

Solutions include suspending payment for up to one year, or reducing the monthly costs by extending the term of the mortgage or switching to an "option mortgage" if this proves more suitable.

Borrowers will be advised as to whether to pay off their mortgage with any redundancy payment or savings.

"We have to recognize that mortgage repayments, especially for those who have only just bought their homes, may be difficult or even impossible to keep going when a borrower is made redundant," Mr Brian Holmes, chief general manager of the society, said yesterday.

"The main purpose of a building society is to help people buy and to keep their own homes. We recognize that jobs become redundant, not people, so our role does not change." Branch managers also will issue information sheets giving advice on the amount of redundancy pay people can expect, tax problems and how to manage their finances, including

mortgage payments and savings problems.

When it comes to investing a lump sum, building societies have an obvious role, but the society points out that it will not necessarily be the right answer for those who do not pay tax.

Provisional hopes that any goodwill it earns now will help with its future business.

The measures are the result of a survey, commissioned for the Provincial from Gallup.

It shows that people facing redundancy lack advice from all quarters. Companies and trade unions are hesitant to help.

The survey confirmed that very few of those who lose their jobs turn to building societies or banks for advice, although when they do they generally find the advice useful and act upon it.

Commenting on the scheme, Mr Holmes said: "Half the population has a building society account and one in 11 adults is currently out of work. The implication of these statistics goes well beyond what may or may not be done with golden handshakes." Although Provincial's main concern is to provide advice on the effect of redundancy on domestic financial matters, it is also encouraging workers made redundant to set up their own co-operatives. The society is handing out information on the Cooperative Development Agency, set up by Parliament.

## Community service plan for jobless

The Manpower Services Commission yesterday announced a £32m scheme aimed at providing 25,000 temporary community service jobs for the long term unemployed.

Sir Richard O'Brien, chairman, made clear that this was only intended as a start and the commission would be approaching the Government for further funds to expand the scheme.

"These people and unemployed teenagers are the major casualties of rising unemployment. Most are unskilled, most left school at the minimum school-leaving age, few have any training and most have had a sequence of unskilled jobs over the years," Sir Richard said.

Society should not turn its back on the victims of unemployment, he said, urging that private industry and nationalized industry should come forward to sponsor the new scheme, which replaces the Special Temporary Employment Programme.

He said that, in December last year, there were 390,000 people who had been out of work for more than a year. The number was rising and the commission thought it would reach 500,000 or higher within the next 12 months. People on the scheme would be given work of value to local communities.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Promoting small firms Government stake in BL

From Sir Harold Wilson, MP for Hydon (Labour)

Sir, The Confederation of British Industry's proposal for the coordination of the existing agencies which assist the development of small industrial firms, reported in your issue of February 9, is to be welcomed. Steps for achieving this were set out in the main Report of the Committee to Review the Functioning of Financial Institutions (Cmd 7937), published last summer, and in our Report on the Financing of Small Firms (Cmd 7503 of March 1979).

The most important priority is to bring England into line with Scotland and Wales, which have their own Scottish and Welsh Development Authorities, as well as the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Development Board for

Rural Wales respectively. England has the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (Cosira) whose operations are confined to purely rural areas and to country towns with less than 15,000 population.

What my colleagues and I sought to see established would be a "Cosura" to provide for urban areas of England some of the facilities available in Wales and Scotland. This would not need any elaborate supervisory machinery. Cosira works under the aegis of the Development Commission, set up by Lloyd George in the early years of the century. Its urban counterpart could easily be fitted into the commission's activities, at any rate for the first few years.

HAROLD WILSON, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

## Design of calendars

From Mr R. J. Evershed

Sir, Mr Leaver ("Standard design for calendars", Letters, February 5) will be interested to know that the British Standards Institution lay down a detailed specification for most weeks are to be numbered (BS 4760). This includes the requirement for Monday to be the first day of the commercial week.

As far as layout of dates is concerned, however, there is no standardization, although it is generally found to be easier to read a calendar where the days

of the week read left to right rather than top to bottom. In the absence of any official regulation on either of these aspects of calendar design, there will no doubt continue to be a number of different layouts, according to the whim of publisher or customer. Yours faithfully, R. J. EVERSHED, Managing Director, Everheds, Alma Road, Hertfordshire, AL1 3AS. February 5.

## Overseas mail rates

From Professor N. Kurti

Sir, I was disappointed with the somewhat disingenuous reply of the Director of International Postal Affairs (February 6) to the correspondence regretting the increase in postal charges to countries of the European Community when charges on mail in the reverse direction have just been decreased. He says that only (my italics) Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and the

Netherlands apply lower postal charges. He should have said that only Belgium, Italy and Luxembourg (responsible probably for less than a quarter of our Economic Community postal traffic) apply the higher rates. Yours faithfully, N. KURTI, Department of Engineering Science, University of Oxford, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PJ.

## Self-regulation at Lloyd's

From Sir Graham Page, MP for Crosby (Conservative)

Sir, With reference to the report (February 11) "Compromise talks start on Bill for self-regulation at Lloyd's", I have no objection to meet Lady Middleton or any other Members of Lloyd's who are not MPs. The Lloyd's Bill has not been withdrawn. Neither Lloyd's nor I have any intention of withdrawing it. The Bill has not faced parliamentary opposition during its second reading last month: it

has not yet had a second reading. No specific meeting of Conservative MPs has been arranged for Thursday evening although, of course, I discuss the contents of the Bill from time to time with interested MPs.

I will not weary you with a recitation of further errors in that item by your insurance correspondent who made no inquiries of me before writing it. GRAHAM PAGE, House of Commons.

From Mr Richard Page, MP for Hertfordshire South West (Conservative) and Mr H. G. Miller, MP for Bromsgrove and Redditch (Conservative)

Sir, We believe everyone shares the concern that was expressed in the letter published on February 7, over the future of British Leyland and the sheer size of government support. However, while pointing out its constituency and a personal involvement, we believe the view as set out do indicate a simplistic approach which, if implemented, would ensure the collapse of BL. Setting aside the demoralizing effect to the planned piece-meal removal of minor parts of the company there are two main factors to be considered.

First, one of the major strengths of BL is that of the depth and quality of its dealer network throughout the country. While already struggling to maintain sales throughout the removal of one or more franchise modules into the hands of other manufacturers would obviously with reduced sales cause dealer closures or conversions with a resultant loss of orders on the factory. Secondly, disposal of pre-owned profitable parts would merely lower the banks borrowings and apart from a reduction in interest would necessitate an increased subsidy to keep other parts operating.

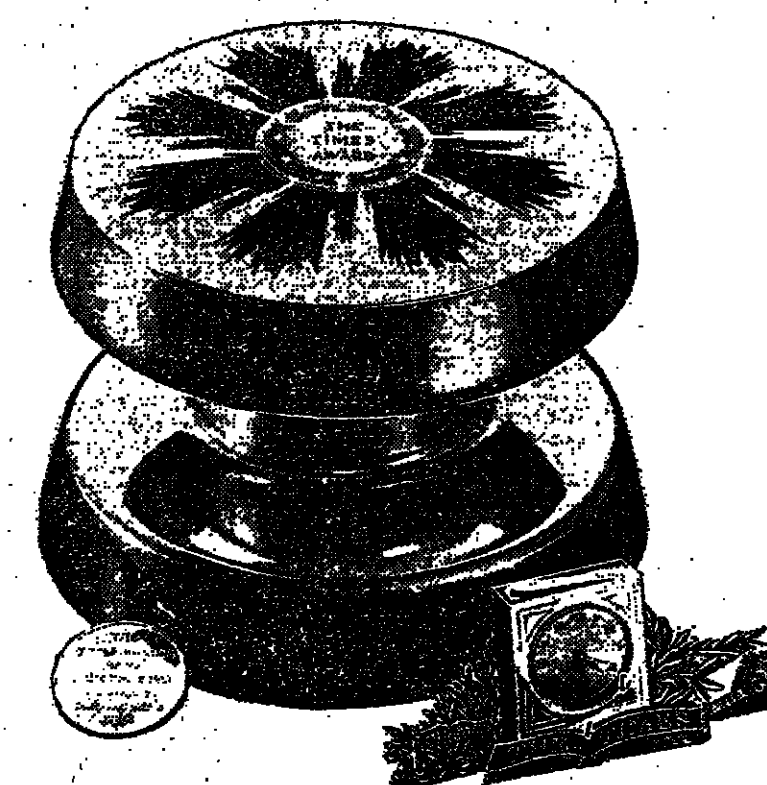
Any decision over the future of British Leyland, no matter whether it be to continue, set off or part close down, must lie in a tightly coordinated plan involving the whole plant and not a haphazard disposal which would create more difficulties and cost than it would solve.

HAL MILLER, RICHARD PAGE, House of Commons.

## Training boards

From Mr P. Palmer Jones

Sir, That the Centre for Policy Studies report on industrial training boards is irrefutable, proved by the construction industry that trained both men and better apprentices before ITBs were conceived, within the £200m plus annual levy or the considerable administrative costs within the firm forced, without consultation into participation. Unless government gets our backs on this typical bureaucratic extravaganza, the private industry will never be off its economic knees. P. PALMER JONES, F. P. Calne Limited, Borough Green, Kent TN15 8AX.



# The Times Awards 1980 Winners.

The winning entries for The Times Awards were those advertisements which, in the opinion of the judges, would leave the reader with the impression that the company would be a good one to do business with, to work for, or in which to invest. The advertisements were judged in terms of good use of typography, design and copy to convey the relevant information.

The task of the independent panel of judges was made particularly exacting by the number, range, and quality of entries from industry, commerce and finance.

## The Grand Prix.

The Times is pleased to announce that the winner of the 1980 Grand Prix is: Unilever Ltd. Agency: Charles Barker CBCLtd. Their entry was judged to be the advertisement that best conveyed, by way of typography, design and copy, information relevant to shareholders, professional advisers, prospective investors and all concerned in the company's well-being in short, an advertisement that would leave the reader with the impression that the company would be a good one to do business with, to work for, or in which to invest.

## Judges' Special Awards.

Overseas Companies: Creditanstalt-Bankverein Agency: Charles Barker CBCLtd. Smaller Advertisement: 20 lines or 4 columns or less. Powell Duffryn Ltd. Agency: Streets Financial Ltd. Special Award: The most significant contribution to new imaginative thinking in industrial advertising. ICFE Ltd. Agency: Doyle Dane Bernbach Ltd.

## Category Winners.

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Category 1a</b><br/>Annual Results, Colour or mono. Half page or larger, or equivalent.</p> <p>1st: Lonrho Ltd.<br/>Agency: Walter Judd Ltd.</p> <p>2nd: International Thomson Organisation Ltd.<br/>Agency: Charles Barker CBCLtd.</p> <p>3rd: Rockitt &amp; Colman Ltd.<br/>Agency: Dewe Rogerson Ltd.</p> | <p><b>Category 1b</b><br/>Annual Results, Colour or mono. Less than half a page or equivalent.</p> <p>1st: Booker McConnell Ltd.<br/>Agency: Valin Pollen Ltd.</p> <p>2nd: London Trust Company Ltd.<br/>Agency: Valin Pollen Ltd.</p> <p>3rd: S &amp; W Berisford Ltd.<br/>Agency: Streets Financial Ltd.</p> | <p><b>Category 2</b><br/>Interim Results, Colour or mono. All sizes.</p> <p>1st: Consolidated Goldfields Ltd.<br/>Agency: Charles Barker CBCLtd.</p> <p>2nd: Pearson Longman Ltd.<br/>Agency: Charles Barker CBCLtd.</p> <p>3rd: Charterhouse Group Ltd.<br/>Agency: Dewe Rogerson Ltd.</p> | <p><b>Category 3</b><br/>Preliminary Results, Colour or mono. All sizes.</p> <p>1st: J. Sainsbury Ltd.<br/>Agency: Streets Financial Ltd.</p> <p>2nd: C.T. Bowring and Co Ltd.<br/>Agency: Walter Judd Ltd.</p> <p>3rd: British Sugar Corporation<br/>Agency: Charles Barker CBCLtd.</p> |
|--|--|---|--|







## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Stock markets

## Gilts ahead while equities recoup early losses

It was a quiet day for most sectors of the market yesterday. Leading equities opened easier by a couple of pence, trimmed by the threat of industrial action by the miners over possible pit closures but recovered by the close. Otherwise, investment buying was again more apparent in special situations. Gilts, however, proved the exception and showed slight gains on the day.

Further consideration of the handling figures released on Tuesday was thought by some to be behind these moves, but gilts dealers attributed the advance to thin conditions. Longs opened at previous night's levels to firm by 1/2 to 1 1/2 during the day and look to move quietly ahead. Shorts also advanced during the day to close firmer by 1/2 to 1 1/2, with reports of some active investment buying. But the new tax was under-subscribed.

Leading equities recovered a very quiet day with thin conditions for both buying and selling. The threat of the miners' action and the closure of Talbot's Linwood factory saw the market open cautiously with some selling early on. Some blue chips dipped such as Glaxo down from 262 1/2 to 258 1/2. Later it recovered to 264 1/2. ICI cost 2 1/2 to 262 1/2. Becton Dickinson rose 1 1/2 to 180 1/2. Dow Jones dropped 1 1/2 to 195 1/2. Dow Jones Industrial Average reports today, was a penny off at 79 1/2. Dow Jones Industrial Average reports today, was a penny off at 79 1/2.

A similar story applied to electricals where again thin conditions prevailed. The board has denied any takeover approaches but the market is talking of a 200p share bid from the Hongkong shipping magnate C. Y. Tung. One London broker spoke of assets in the region of 400p a share.

Line, still looking for a counter-offer to the latest Turnbull bid, climbed 13p to 435p. Reardon Smith, also on bid speculation and a broker's circular, added 16p firmer at 140p. European Ferries, after their week-long climb, dipped 3p to 161p reflecting profit-taking after Tuesday's gains and news of the Spanish acquisition.

Crouch, after an interim profits setback, fell 13p to 140p. D. Macpherson climbed 4p to 68p and Crest Nicholson rose 3p to 133p following encouraging figures earlier in the week. Westland, after general meeting forecasts, added 6p to 125p. Speculative buying lifted G. W. Sparrow 5p to 73p and added 6p to Lister at 40p. Fading bid hopes took 5p from I. Barget at 175p.

Also on the bid front, Harrison & Crossfield's approach boosted London Sumatra 35p to 275p. Harrison dropped 5p to 67p. This sparked off speculative demand for Warren, up 10p to 218p, while Malakoff put on 10p to 124p. News of Escal's share stake lifted David Dixon 2p to 46p.

Shares were suspended at 365p in Meekatharra, the Australian coal mining group, awaiting independent survey results. Oils continued their downward move and jobbers reported a day in the doldrums. Leaders like BP down 2p at 410p, Shell down 6p at 418p, Ultramar, down 1p to 485p led the way. Tricentral fell back 6p to 314p and Burmah dropped 3p to 183p. It is still the second-liners which are attracting most attention. One bright spark came from the new placing of Oil and Gas Products. Opening at 42p, the shares closed 1p up and the partly-placed shares, doubled in price to 81p.

But exploration issues saw Double Eagle 45p higher at 255p, and Warrior up 40p to 260p on annual reports published yesterday. Banks saw movements after several days of inactivity. Barclays, rose 7p to 405p and Midland was up 7p to 335p, while Lloyds put on 4p to 335p. Insurances recouped opening falls, but still closed a little easier. Jobbers described difficult trading with shortages of stock and mainly selective buying. Commercial Union, on press reports, tumbled 1p to 152p. General Accident was down 2p to 298p but Royal added 3p to 363p.

Properties showed a mixed market with losses confined to a few prices. Insurance added 3p to 35p on acquisition news, otherwise Stock Conv dropped 5p to 340p, MEPC net lower, 2p to 235p and Land Secs was unchanged at 398p.

Equity turnover on February 10 was £128,975m (18,194 bar gains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, Shell, ICI, Boots, Bowater, Barclays, Tricentral, Imperial Group, Turner & Newall, Guinness, Pearl, BP, Associated Dairies, Becton, BAT and BTR.

Traded options: Dealers reported total contracts of £25. GEC attracted 151, Rascal took 124, Shell attracted 23, P & O 17, Lombar 41 and Land Secs took 37.

Traditional options: Dealers reported very quiet conditions with calls in Gold Mines, ICI, Charterhall, Endeavour, Oil, Turner & Newall, First National Finance and Johnson & Fifth Brown and Hampton Trust.

Puts were arranged in Thorn and Groviteel Mines.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	£m	pence	date	total
Anglo-Amer Secs (F)	(—)	4.79(4.7)	5.25(5.12)	3.4(3.0)	—	4.7(4.7)
Christy Bros (Int)	2.49(4.3)	0.05(0.12)	2.7(6.0)	(—)	(—)	(—)
F. Cogson (I)	2.12(2.1)	0.05(0.1)	0.05(0.1)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Martin Ford (F)	6.42(1.1)	0.21(0.3)	1.84(1.13)	0.6(1.3)	30/4	1.3(2.6)
Moorfield Ltd (F)	(—)	1.2(0.93)	7.17(6.12)	5(4.4)	(—)	7(6)
Press Tools (I)	1.4(1.41)	0.14(0.2)	(—)	0.8(0.95)	(—)	(2.7)
Scott & Merc Int (F)	(—)	0.5(0.39)	5.98(5.26)	5.3(4.2)	2/4	5.3(5.2)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Earnings in Business Net dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross pence per share divided by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. \*Loss; †Comparative figures are for nine months; ‡Latest figures are for six months compared with one year.

## Briefly

**Bett Brothers:** Chairman considers that there are reasonable prospects of defence of profits and turnover at acceptable levels, and all board's energies will be directed towards these ends.

**Brent Chemicals International:** confirms completion of acquisition of Uresco Inc details of which were announced on January 20.

**Kwik-Fit (Tyres and Exhausts) Holdings:** announces that 190,000 new ordinary shares have been issued to the vendor of Davenport Garage in full settlement of balance of consideration for Davenport which was acquired in March, 1980. A further 193,000 shares have been issued on conversion of loan stock.

**Barrow Hepburn Group's** sale of 40 per cent holding in Colver Watson Holdings (a New Zealand Co) to Strong and Fisher (Holdings) has been completed following successful defence of action by a third party to frustrate the agreement. Consideration of £700,000 has been received.

**Ardens and Cobden Hotels:** Profit after tax for year to December 31, 1980, £133,000. Turnover £1.2m (£1.06m). Dividend 5.5p net (4.75p). Eps 2.7p (1.77p).

**Martin Ford:** With sales, including VAT, down from £7.2m to £6.42m, Martin Ford's pretax profits dropped from £1.13m to £0.21m in the year to November 29, 1980. The total dividend is being halved to 1.85p gross. But the board reports a significant improvement in the current year's results.

**Cultus Pacific:** The Australian mineral exploration company, has set up a wholly-owned British subsidiary, Cultus UK, to look at oil and gas exploration in Europe. Cultus is now receiving income from the United States. Mr Christopher Rowe, the company's chairman, says in his annual report.

**Scottish & Mercantile Investment:** Pretax profits for half year to Sept 30, 1980, £509,000 (compared with £285,000 for 1979) to March 31, 1980. Dividend, 7.44p gross (7.42p gross for one year). Anglo-American Securities Corporation: Net revenue for half year to Jan 31, 1981, £4.79m (£4.7m). Total dividend 6.75p gross (6.77p gross, including special dividend of 0.77p).

## Deutsche Babcock cuts dividend

Deutsche Babcock, the West German machinery group, said yesterday it was cutting its dividend for last year to 6 per cent from 16 per cent in 1978-79.

The company indicated that earnings had not dropped from the 1978-79 level of DM40.8m. September 30, 1980, to reserves.

The dividend cut means that

## Christy optimistic despite loss

By Peter Wilson-Smith  
Christy Brothers, the Chelmsford-based contracting and engineering group, had pretax losses of £54,000 on sales of £2.49m in the six months to June 30. The net loss was £78,000 after redundancy and other charges. The shares were unchanged at 24p.

Mr James Dyer, who was appointed chairman last summer after stockbrokers Simon & Coates gained control of Christy with a 30p-a-share cash bid, said he expected the group

to show a pre-tax profit in the second half to June 30.

Christy has changed its year-end so comparison is difficult, but in the nine months to December 31, 1979, it lost £119,000 pretax and £157,000 in the ensuing six months.

In the latest six months there was an £88,000 trading profit before interest despite poor sales in the manufacturing side of the business and further losses on contracts taken at low margins. However, underlying charges showed an interesting rise to £142,000.

Since last June, Mr Dyer said there had been considerable cost savings, including a cut in the workforce from 321 to 203 and stock reductions.

On the contracting side, where Christy's main work has occurred in its chequered past, the group has recently won two contracts for animal feed plants worth about £750,000 each and Mr Dyer said the margins were reasonable.

Because the group shows a debt to distributable reserves it has been unable to pay dividends on the cumulative preference shares under company law.

## Fresh moves likely at Howard Machinery

By Rosemary Unsworth  
Mr Stanley Mann, chairman of American Diamond Industries, which staged a takeover bid on Howard Machinery last Friday, picking up 14.9 per cent, is coming to London this weekend "on business".

Mr Mann said yesterday that there would definitely be further developments in connection with the stake in the troubled agricultural machinery group, but Mr C. F. Alsop, Howard's chief executive, said that he had had no contact with Mr Mann since the notification of the purchase.

Diamond Industries, a private company, operates 10 home oil heating companies in Delaware as well as a petrol trading company and two barge terminals. Mr Mann, who is 59, is also treasurer and a director of Oxford First Securities, a quoted financial services company, as well as chairman of the Delaware Valley Trade zone.

Diamond holds a near 10 per cent stake in Bache Group, the Wall Street brokers, acquired after the Hunt Brothers pulled out following their silver dealings disaster.

## Gold Eurobond tumbles

The first ever Eurobond issue denominated in gold tumbled in the market yesterday as the spot price for gold fell below \$500 an ounce. The 100,000-ounce, 15-year issue was priced at par when dealings began on Tuesday. The coupon was initially 3.25 per cent and the subscription price was based on the London afternoon fixing of \$519.50 an ounce. In trading

yesterday the issue was quoted at \$97.50, reflecting a 3.56 per cent decline in gold bullion to \$501 an ounce.

The arrangements for the issue were made by a trustee, the 2,400,000-ounce, originally estimated by Meekatharra.

Mr Don O'Callaghan, chairman of Meekatharra, upon hearing the news applied to the Perth Stock Exchange for immediate suspension of the shares at \$37.30 (375p) just before the market closed.

Mr O'Callaghan immediately issued a statement to shareholders stating: "We are advised that yesterday afternoon the House of Assembly of the South Australian Parliament with regard to this."

"As this company and its constituents have had no opportunity to respond to the minister's letter prior to his statement to Parliament, the board of directors has determined that it would be in the best interests of the shareholders to suspend trading in the company's shares until such time as the company can ensure a properly informed market."

The shares are quoted in the London market and dealers were optimistic last night that the suspension would last only a week until independent surveyors were able to make a report.

## Barget raising £400,000

By Our Financial Staff  
Essex-based furniture makers Barget are raising £400,000 from a placing of 250,000 shares with institutions at 160p, to pay off a loan from the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation.

Discussions have been taking place between Barget directors and ICF on the possible renegotiation of a £216,000 loan which was secured by a first charge on Barget's factory at Witham.

The directors say that it is in the shareholders' best interests to remove this and have now concluded that the best way of raising new capital through a placing.

Fluor Corporation expects earnings per share for the year to October 31, 1981, to be 15 to 20 per cent above the \$2.73 (£1.18) made in 1980.

The statement was made by Mr J. Robert Fluor, chairman, at a meeting attended by some 80 financial analysts in California on Monday.

## Cadbury Schweppes

An increase of more than half in pretax profits has been achieved by Cadbury Schweppes (South Africa). They rose from R4.8m to R7.4m (£3.7m). Turnover went up from R36.6m to R50.39m. The dividend is increased from 23 cents to 36 cents for the year.

The chairman, Mr C. Gilliers, says that earnings a share, at 96.4 cents, were 47 per cent higher than last year. Both the drinks and confectionery sections of the business had earned higher profits.

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## New-look Atcost moves ahead

The privately-owned Atcost Holdings, group which makes steel and concrete structures for construction projects, increased its profits before tax from £557,000 to £766,000 in the year to September 30, in spite of the problems besetting the industry.

The improvement follows a switch in the group's business mix from providing most of its structures for agricultural buildings to concentrating much more upon special projects and nursery units. Special structures are expected to provide two fifths of group turnover this year, though total sales are not expected to rise much from 1979-80's £19.6m turnover.

Last year's good performance also reflected a strong order book, which was now slipped in real terms although they are similar in sterling terms. Mr Peter Down, the chairman, said yesterday that this is likely to be a year of consolidation following last year's acquisition, which involved the steel frames builder Hillspar.

Borrowings have risen from the year-end net figure of £1.66m, but part of the £400,000 proceeds on the sale of a factory site in Kent will go towards reducing that. He also has a contract to build on the site for the new owner.

David Dixon & Son Holdings, the Yorkshire hosiery and cloth manufacturer, said that it had no idea what Escal (Commodities) intended to do with its 5.9 per cent stake which it has acquired in stages during the last month.

The purchase of the shares, which yesterday gained 2p to 65p, makes Escal the third largest shareholder in the group. Mr Harry Turpin, chairman and chief executive, is the major shareholder with 12 per cent of the ordinary shares. However, including his pre-ferred shares and these shares held by his friends, his control is more than 20 per cent of the equity. Sun Alliance also has a 7.7 per cent holding.

Gulliver stake in Argyl Foods rises  
On February 10, Gulliver Foods exercised its option to acquire 1.69m fully paid ordinary shares of Argyl Foods from certain members of the Edwards family under a 1978 agreement. Of these shares, 1.5m have been placed

at about 115p a share and 193,745 shares, have been retained by Gulliver. As a result, the shareholding of Gulliver and its associates in Argyl has risen to 48.5m ordinary shares (21.1 per cent).

Receivers for Geo White (Gosport)  
Mr Guy Parsons and Mr Richard Agutter, partners in the Gosport-based firm of Parsons, Agutter & Mitchell, have been appointed joint receivers and managers of Geo White (Gosport), who manufacture children's clothing.

The company, which employs about 400 people, operates from Gosport, Hampshire. Its customers are a number of the large retail chains.

The joint receivers are allowing the company to trade with a view to selling the business as a going concern.

Tax clearance hopes at G R Dawes Hlgs  
The liquidators of G. R. Dawes Holdings report that

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## Westland shares jump on news of profits increase

By Michael Clark  
Westland Aircraft is beating the recession, despite earlier worries over defence spending cuts.

Lord Aldington, chairman, told the annual meeting yesterday that management accounts for the first three months showed profits in real terms running ahead of those for the corresponding period. The market greeted the news with a 6p rise in the share price to 125p.

Deliveries were also up on last year's but were still below previous expectations, while the value of orders received had been boosted by an order for Sea King helicopters received in October.

The group's Ministry of Defence funded research and development had been reduced and was now running below previous levels, although it was expected that this might be



Lord Aldington, chairman of Westland Aircraft.

increased in the spring. But the Government's defence spending cuts had seriously affected the flow of orders for spare parts, he added. Nevertheless, the company still had

a substantial load of product support work for private customers.

Turning to the helicopter division, Lord Aldington pointed out that it still needed more orders for the Lynx and would still be pressing ahead with the WG 30 after the completion of arrangements with British Airways Helicopters.

Hovercraft production continued apace and further expansion was envisaged, but the Westland Technologies division had suffered a setback owing to the fall-off in house building activities.

On a sombre note he said that Westland had still not reached agreement with the Italian government over the next stage of the EH 101 project, which would threaten its ability to capture a substantial share of the market, and turn, pass the ultimate cost to the Government.

## Slight improvement at Yorkshire Bank

By Roman Eisenstein  
Banking Correspondent  
Yorkshire Bank, the northern bank, owned by the other clearers, yesterday reported a slight profits improvement for 1980. The group pretax profit has edged up from £19.13m to £19.76m and the improvement after tax is from £11.6m to £12.3m.

The figures are to some extent distorted by the contribution from the finance and leasing subsidiaries. At the present time the profits of Yorkshire Bank Finance fell from £667,000 to only £257,000, while operating losses of the leasing subsidiary rose from £166,000 to £470,000.

However, the after-tax surplus on leasing was over £22m as against a loss of some £250,000 last year. This was a principal reason for the improvement of the group's net profits. Yorkshire Bank, whose chairman is Mr J. P. R. Glynn, says that prospects on the leasing business are good.

Profits on current cost accounting, the first ones for a bank to be given a "true and fair" appraisal by its auditors, are up from £1.6m to £1.95m.

As with the leading clearing banks, Yorkshire has seen its customers switching some of their deposits from non-interest bearing current accounts to deposit accounts. While current account deposits rose by only 4 per cent, the growth of deposit accounts kept pace with inflation and these grew by 18 per cent. The group's balance sheet total rose by 17 per cent, roughly in line with inflation.

Mr Sunderland, the general manager, points out that the longer term saving accounts have increased in value by 40 per cent. Advances have been affected by the reluctance of borrowers to pay the prevailing high interest rates and advances rose by only 17.5 per cent compared with a rise of 25.5 per cent last year.

The provision for bad debts has remained almost static during the year. Specific provisions are barely changed at £1.53m while general provisions are slightly up from £4.36m to £4.79m.

Mr Sunderland says that the bank is taking an "indulgent" attitude to personal borrowers who cannot meet their debt obligations. It is also taking support measures for several of its business customers.

By Our Financial Staff  
Clothing manufacturer Blackman & Conrad is to cease trading and is pursuing its active subsidiary into voluntary liquidation. The shares were suspended at 6p on February 5, pending an announcement, giving the company a market capitalization of £291,000.

In December, the company reported a first-half loss to July 31 of £30,000 on greatly reduced turnover. Mr David Alderman, the chairman and managing director, said then that trading

conditions showed no sign of improvement. No dividends have been paid since 1977.

No one at the company was available for comment last night. Merchant bank Charterhouse Japhet is among its creditors, with about £60,000 of a previously much larger debt still outstanding.

The company makes children's and ladies' wear and has been suffering increasingly from poor demand and thanks to stiff competition from cheap imports of clothing.

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## Report boosts Warrior

By Catherine Gunn  
Shares of Canadian energy exploration companies, Double Eagle and Warrior Resources, rose steeply in London yesterday following an encouraging report on exploration activity from Warrior Resources.

The two groups are operating together in Oklahoma and Mexico, where the companies have unlike their suspended well in Alaska, whose trouble behind last year's collapse in both their share prices.

Warrior Resources rose 4 to 260p, while Double Eagle rose 45p to 255p here. A £1.1 to £0.735 in Canada, one point last year, Double Eagle's "high" was 81p.

Warrior reached 410p in London, before a sharp fall. Alaskan well had been pending percolated through. No seismic work is being carried out there now in hope of finding it.

Double Eagle's chairman, Kingsford Healey, said yesterday that the company's show a positive cash flow for its Oklahoma ventures in 1980. It has spent just £0.56m (£2.14m) in Alaska so far, but 62.5 per cent of the cost of that venture.

Warrior owns 24.3 per cent of Double Eagle and has a loan of a positive cash flow in its Texas venture for a year. Double Eagle also hopes to start exploration in Texas shortly.

Mr Michael Roper-Caldwell, Double Eagle's deputy chairman, said yesterday that Mr Healey is known to the group's chairman, Mr Alan Chilton, who based in Singapore. Mr Roper-Caldwell said the group is unduly concerned about Healey's increasing stake in Double Eagle and his knowledge of no links between the two companies.

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## Stock Exchange Prices

# Gilts make progress

**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings Began, Feb. 9. Dealings End, Feb. 27. § Contango Day, March 2. Settlement Day, March 9.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the kitchen and the service of the restaurant.

## LEGAL NOTICES

WHEREAS the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has received a request from the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the appointment of a person to the post of Director of the National Association for Deaf/Blind and Rubella Handicapped.

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Tank Museum  
Curator

The Museum, at the Royal Armoured Corps Centre in Dorset, deals with every aspect of 20th Century armoured vehicles and has a secondary role as a source of military instruction to the adjacent Armour School.

This post combines the functions of Curator Secretary to the Trustees' Committee, and ex-officio Trustee of the Museum. The successful candidate will be responsible for a variety of functions including implementation of Trustees' policy; improvements to facilities; negotiations on international acquisitions and exchange of major exhibits; display arrangements; repair and conservation of exhibits; research; and dealing with public enquiries.

Candidates (preferably aged at least 26) should normally have a degree in a relevant subject, practical experience of armoured vehicles in the field, and staff experience relating to Armour; but those without a degree will be considered if their experience is of special value. Appreciation of armoured fighting vehicles' technology and knowledge of the history of the Household Cavalry and Royal Armoured Corps desirable. Experience of current museum techniques on conservation, display, research work and administration with the Army Department organisation, advantageous.

SALARY: £8,075-£10,500 according to qualifications and experience. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 4 March 1981) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G(2)382.

Ministry of Defence

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